

THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

THE HENMAN INHERITANCE

The sporting tradition behind Britain's new tennis hero, PAGE 5

Plus: **VENABLES** on Nicholson, Busby, Ramsay and Shankly, PAGE 46

STYLE
How to make the most of the sales
PAGE 18

MEDIA
VOGUE
Glossies may switch to TV
PAGE 25

INTERVIEW
WIN A PACKARD BELL PC WORTH £3,000

RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSON
Diana, divorce and great expectations
PAGE 19



Mackay seeks to impose cash limits

Test for merit in shake-up of legal aid

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

REFORMS to stop millions of pounds of legal aid going on trivial cases were announced yesterday in the biggest shake-up of the scheme since it was set up in 1949.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern hopes to introduce legislation this autumn to impose cash limits on the £1.4 billion scheme. The Bill would also bring in a merit test, so that only the most deserving cases would be funded on taxpayers' money, and a new principle by which everyone would have to pay something towards the cost of their case. They would also be liable for their opponent's costs if they lost.



Mackay: "public sees system as wasteful"

The changes would create an NHS-style internal market, with law firms, advice bureaux and others awarded block contracts by the Legal Aid Board to provide services. That is likely to lure insurance companies into the market with schemes mixing public and private funds to back legal actions.

The Lord Chancellor said yesterday that the present system was delivering "less and less, pound for pound, to an ever smaller section of society." The public saw legal aid as "wasteful in supporting too many undeserving cases; as over-priced, with taxpayers on moderate incomes - who would not qualify for legal aid if they sought it - paying what appears to them to be huge lawyers' fees."

But the plans brought criticism from lawyers and consumer groups, who claimed that poor people would be hit hardest. The Law Society said that litigants would face a lifetime of debt if they lost. They would be frightened out of seeking legal aid and unable to enforce or defend their rights.

Both the society and the Bar said that plans for regional cash limits would create a new layer of bureaucracy. David Penry-Davey, QC, the Bar chairman, said the changes would be a "victory for bureaucracy, waste and injustice." They would restrict

choice and reduce quality of service.

At the heart of the plans is an appeal to "middle England" taxpayers who have been infuriated by a series of high-profile legal aid cases. Under the new merit test, a number of cases which have hit the headlines would be excluded from the scheme. These would probably include the cancer patient Cyril Smith, who is suing the NHS after being told his diagnosis of terminal illness was wrong; the former RAF officer Simon Foster, who is trying to force his health authority to give him a sex change; and Jawad Hashim, one-time aide to the Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, who was given £4 million to defend a £34 million civil fraud claim, even though he had six homes.

Yesterday Lord Mackay made clear that he wanted to move swiftly on the "radical" proposals, many of which do not need legislation and are already being implemented. Advice agencies are to be brought under the scheme immediately, so that they can be awarded contracts in the same way as franchised law firms are now.

He also intends to open consultations with the legal profession about standard rates for civil cases, "as a prelude to moving to bulk contracts with fixed prices" and a special unit is being set up to investigate "apparently

wealthy" applicants. Legislation is needed for the new merits test and the rules to make people contribute towards their legal aid fees, beyond the end of the case. But these could be wrapped up "quite neatly" in a Bill, he said.

The measures are part of a wider reform programme to extend access to justice for those outside legal aid by cutting the cost of litigation, and officials hope to wrap the reforms into one Bill.

The White Paper published yesterday acknowledged the controversy the proposals would cause, saying: "Balancing interests and policy objectives is never easy and is rarely popular because few people get everything they want."

The document goes on to make clear that people should not be asked to pay more than they can afford, although the Lord Chancellor said: "A small charge at the outset may well be a good way of ensuring that those who wish to take cases are really committed to them. The taxpayer is asked to assist in other people's cases, and if those people are not committed to their case to the extent of a very small limited contribution in the first place, it seems very hard to expect the taxpayer to be so."

But the National Consumer Council accused the Government of planning unsubstantiated and dangerous changes on the wrong assumption that frivolous people were queuing up to bring trivial cases. The chairman, David Hatch, said: "Very poor and desperate people will be priced out of the justice system if they know they may be forced to pay an application fee and contribute to costs if they lose."

Isabel Manley, vice-chairwoman of the Law Centres Foundation, said: "The Lord Chancellor has thrown away a golden opportunity to improve the scheme. It is the poor and vulnerable who will suffer."

Costs of justice, page 6
Leading article, page 21



Carol Burwash: collapsed and died after being given ten times the prescribed dose

Woman died after doctor misread handwriting

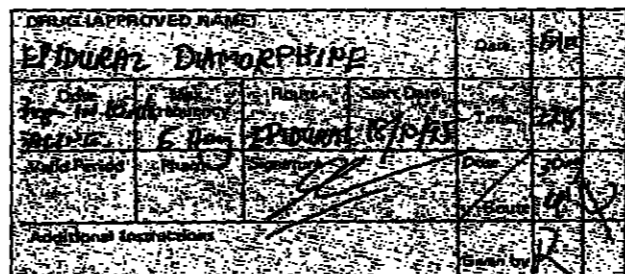
By RUSSELL JENKINS

A PATIENT at a prestigious private hospital died after a doctor misread a colleague's handwriting and gave her ten times the required dose of painkillers, an inquest was told yesterday.

Carol Burwash, 53, had been admitted to the Princess Grace Hospital in Maylebone, west London, for a routine hysterectomy, but she collapsed and died after being given 30mg of diamorphine (pharmaceutical heroin) instead of the 3mg designed to help her sleep comfortably.

Dr Paul Knapman, the Westminster coroner, yesterday criticised the two doctors involved, but said the errors at the hospital fell short of criminal. He recorded a verdict of accidental death, adding: "That does not mean everybody is blameless. It has no bearing on compensation."

Dr Knapman said that the



The dosage instruction, left, was read as 30mg

hospital had shown shortcomings and insufficient attention to detail: a mistake had been made "with absolutely devastating fatal consequences". He also criticised the back-up procedures when it came to resuscitation.

Mrs Burwash's husband Brian, who hoped for a verdict of unlawful killing, expressed bitter disappointment that the police had stopped their investigation.

The figure on the prescription, written by the consultant

anaesthetist Dr Giok Lim, was unclear and dreadfully written, the coroner said. And Dr Lim should have gone over it with the resident medical officer Dr Richard Hornbrook and the nursing staff. He should also have made sure that they understood what was involved in giving the painkiller by epidural.

Dr Hornbrook had administered an epidural only once before and had never before been left in charge of a

continued on page 4, col 6

English pupils plummet in international maths league

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

ENGLISH teenagers are plummeting in the international league in mathematics, according to an authoritative study of standards in 41 countries to be published later this year. But in science they are the brains of Europe.

The survey of 13-year-olds will confirm experts' worst fears of underperformance in mathematics. Ministers and Opposition politicians have called for action after a series of gloomy reports suggesting that many children never master basic numeracy.

English results were 3 per cent above the world average when the International Mathematics and Science Study was last undertaken, in 1990. By last year the country's 13-year-olds were almost 3 per cent below the average and last of a group of industrialised nations in algebra and number work.

A smaller-scale study to be published next week by Ofsted, the school inspection agency, will raise similar concerns. But academics have been waiting for the main survey which bases its findings on thousands of test results and is seen as the main benchmark of achievement.

Teachers will draw some consolation from the science results, which place England sixth out of 27 countries. But the mathematics placing of nineteenth out of 27 will raise further questions about the way the subject is taught.

The 13,800 English teenagers answered 53 per cent of maths questions correctly, compared with 79 per cent in top-of-the-table Singapore. The average was 55 per cent, with Ireland, Belgium, Switzerland and France all reaching higher standards.

In science, the position was

reversed, with only Singapore, Japan, Korea and the Czech Republic outperforming England. From 2 per cent above the average for science in 1990, England was almost 6 per cent better in 1995.

English teenagers did best in environmental science, with only Singaporeans scoring more highly. They were ahead of Western Europeans in all five areas tested.

The study is the third of its kind. England and Scotland, whose pupils are assessed separately, did not participate in a parallel survey of 17-year-olds because of doubts about its methodology.

Professor David Reynolds, who carried out the Ofsted study, said: "These figures are very much in line with our findings, although the maths results are somewhat worse than we recorded and science somewhat better. The poor performance in maths almost certainly reflects the long tail of underachievers."

A spokesman for the Department for Education and Employment said: "Other international evidence has shown standards in maths are not high enough and we have taken action to address this."

Lord Henley, the Junior Education Minister, announced the latest Government initiative yesterday, with the introduction of mental arithmetic tests at 11 and 14. Gillian Shepherd, the Education and Employment Secretary, has already introduced calculator-free tests.

Labour said a progress report on the Government's education and training targets, also published yesterday, showed how far there was to go in mastering the basics. "Our youngsters lag behind still further as they get older."



"Gerald's had Henmania for years"

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TV & RADIO 50, 51
WEATHER 26
CROSSWORDS 26, 52

Tories turn to satire in battle over manifesto

By JILL SHERMAN AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE pre-election battle intensified yesterday after it emerged that Paul Hamlyn, the publisher, is to finance most of Labour's £1 million advertising campaign to sell its new manifesto. At the same time the Tories, combining invective and sarcasm, released a "spoof" version of Tony Blair's plans.

As Mr Blair won the backing of Labour's national executive for his 36-page "Road to the Manifesto" programme, with only two leftwingers voting against, party officials revealed plans to launch the biggest ever campaign outside a general election to put across Labour's plans to voters.

Mr Hamlyn, a multi-millionaire and longstanding Labour supporter, will finance more than half the campaign which includes delivering leaflets with a summary at every household.

Two million "credit cards" bearing Labour's five key

Dr Angry and Mr Competitiveness are hardly an ideal light comedy double act

— Peter Riddell, P12

manifesto pledges will also be sent to target households in the next few weeks. In a move that will infuriate activists the document cannot be amended; it will go out to the party on a "take it or leave it" basis.

But the Conservatives launched a pre-emptive strike against the Blair document, which will be released tomorrow.

Deploying parody as a political weapon, the party published a 24,000-word document called *The Road to Ruin: New Labour's Real Manifesto* in which it began

its new campaign to highlight the dangers of New Labour. On each left-hand page are sourced quotations from leading Labour figures, and on the right a satirical interpretation of what the words meant.

The paper suggests, for example, that the real Labour manifesto should contain pledges to create new communities "so that everybody is in bed by 10pm and not out shopping as they are under the Tories" and a new Europe in which "Britain is really nice and gets its way by agreeing to everyone else's suggestions."

The use of "negative campaigning" brought predictable complaints from Labour last night. But the launch hit an early snag when the Conservatives were accused of making a sick joke at the expense of David Blunkett, Labour's education spokesman, who is blind. It highlighted a pledge from him that "all check-ups

Continued on page 2, col 5

Visa trouble sends Blair's guru home

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

IMMIGRATION rules have deprived Tony Blair of his religious mentor. The Rev Peter Thomson, 60, was invited by Mr Blair to come to England and advise him in the run-up to the next election.

But only weeks after arriving in London - where he hoped to take the job of vicar of St Luke's, Holloway - the spiritual "guru" has been forced to return to Australia to

join the queue for visa entitling him to work instead of coming as a tourist.

Mr Blair's aides shrugged off the hitch, saying it would not affect the Labour leader, who would maintain telephone contact with Mr Thomson until he returns to Britain, probably before month's end.

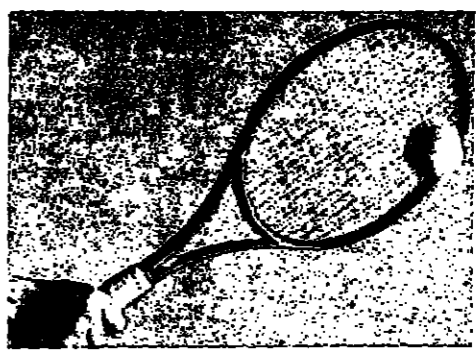
Mr Thomson's wife Helen, who remained at St Luke's while her husband flew home, said: "I think he is just in a queue like everyone else. There is no problem to my knowledge. I have my fingers crossed that he will be back in two weeks."

Mr Thomson's departure coincides with attacks on Mr Blair from Roman Catholics for taking Holy Communion at his wife's Catholic church in Highbury, north London, where his son Euan is an altar server.

As an Anglican, the Labour leader is not permitted by Catholic rules to receive communion.



Thomson: phone contact



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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

Beauty dies battling the beasts that torment one of America's most famous clans

Family 'curse' claims another Hemingway

FROM QUENTIN LETTS
IN NEW YORK

HOLLYWOOD spoke yesterday of a "curse of the Hemingways" after the shocking death of the beautiful Margot Hemingway, 41, was found dead in her flat almost 35 years to the day after her grandfather, Ernest, his mind awash with drink and wasted words, killed himself in Ketchum, Idaho.

Friends discovered the body of the former model and actress after going to her new apartment in Santa Monica on Monday to help her to finish moving in. When no one answered the door they summoned a workman who climbed on to a balcony to look inside. He found a crumpled body, dressed but lifeless. She had been dead at least two days, police said, and was identified by dental records.

It was a lonely death for the woman who was once the best-paid model in the world, with a contract worth more than \$1 million to promote a perfume. She had stepped off a bus in New York in 1974 and instantly been accepted as an adornment to the social scene that revolved around nightclubs such as Studio 54. Stars such as Liza Minnelli accepted her as one of their own. "Baby," the Hollywood producer Dino De Laurentis told her, "I'll make you a star."

Her death was not being treated as suspicious. "There were no signs of forced entry, no signs of foul play, no note to indicate suicide," Gary Galliot, of the police department, said. "No guns or illegal substances were found in the apartment."

Hemingway followers, however, talked of the demons that seem to haunt the family, and noted the way that the off-tall Margot, like her grandfather, turned to drink in moments of despair.

In her heyday, she admitted, she had often been "living the life of Ernest." She drank to "loosen up" on the dance floor, to quell her nerves when mixing with film stars. "In my grandfather's time it was a virtue to be able to drink a lot and never show it," she said. "Like him, I wanted to live my



Miss Hemingway's body was found, above, almost 35 years to the day after her grandfather's death

MR. HEMINGWAY DIES IN GUN ACCIDENT

SHOT IN HEAD

From Our Own Correspondent

NEW YORK, July 3. Ernest Hemingway, the distinguished American author, died today from a gunshot wound to the head. The shooting occurred in his home in Ketchum, Idaho, at about 10.30 pm. The cause of death was a gunshot wound to the head. The coroner's office is investigating the cause of death.



life to the fullest, with gusto." But in 1987 she admitted that she was "so screwed up I can't finish a sentence" and was admitted to the Betty Ford Clinic for treatment for alcoholism.

The drinking contributed to epileptic fits, and dulled what acting abilities she had. For all De Laurentis's brave words, stardom proved elusive. The only thing Miss Hemingway seemed good at, was being herself. Her debut film, *Lip*

stick, was a turkey and she was doomed to a career of B movies.

There were also family pressures, not least the knowledge that four relatives died at their own hands and that alcoholism ran in the clan. Her cousin, Lorian Hemingway, put the family addiction rate at "more than 75 per cent".

She was born Margot but changed her Christian name at 17 to Margaux when she learned that on the night she

was conceived her parents had been drinking Chateau Margaux, her grandfather's favourite wine. When she was in the Betty Ford Clinic she pondered the sense of having a name with such richly alcoholic echoes, and later switched back to Margot.

After the clinic, Miss Hemingway appeared to rally, and found the confidence to pose nude for *Playboy*. She had recently started narrating a television nature series. She endured diabetes, bulimia and divorce, but appeared to be going in the right direction until the middle of June. Then, according to her agent, David Mirisch, she for some reason stopped being "the Margot Hemingway that we all know as far as having that 'up' personality".

After moving into the apartment, Miss Hemingway had encountered problems with her landlady and, according to neighbours, had slipped into despair. One local resident, Peter Osterlund, reported the last sighting of Miss Hemingway, Saturday, about 7pm, when in the old days she would have been calling for a third cocktail but was now simply looking "haggard and sad" as she walked down the main street.

Another neighbour, Mark Stern, said that he had found her in her car at midnight last week. "She was shaking, she was upset," he said. "There was apparently making so much noise next door that she could not sleep."

Miss Hemingway, who grew up in the family compound in Ketchum, was one of three daughters born to Ernest's son Jack. "There was my big sister Muffet and my little sister Mariel," she said. "I was a middle kid. They forgot about me."

But now they are remembering, and the blanketed stretcher was wheeled out of her flat towards the coroner's van for the trip to the morgue, bystanders clapped their hands and watched in sorrow. A pathologist's report will be prepared. Mr Mirisch speculated that the cause of death was an epileptic fit.

Her sister Mariel seems to have escaped the family curse.



A perfume contract made Margot Hemingway the world's highest-paid model

Her finest hour came when she received an Oscar nomination at 17 for the Woody Allen film *Manhattan*. She had breast implants for a film about the glamour model Dorothy Stratten, but shed them later saying "they're not my style". She was now married to a restaurateur and has two daughters.

For Margot, the sibling success must have been hard to bear. Mr Mirisch said: "Even though Margot was not the greatest actress in the world she had personality, and people wanted to be with her." He added that the television nature programme she had recently started was intended to be a route to new showbusiness success. "We really felt this series was going to bring her back."

Earlier yesterday, the court heard from a girl who claimed she was approached by Hughes only hours before he is alleged to have murdered Sophie Hook, but ran to her grandmother's home where she had been spending the afternoon. The trial continues.

Obituary, page 23

My son admitted murder, says father

By KATE ALDERSON

THE father of the man accused of murdering Sophie Hook told a hushed courtroom yesterday that his son confessed to him after he had been arrested that he had killed the seven-year-old girl.

Gerald Hughes, a building contractor from Colwyn Bay, Cwyd, said he was in turmoil after his son, Howard, told him: "Yes Dad, I did it."

Clutching the witness stand, Mr Hughes told the jury at Chester Crown Court that he had known Sophie's family for many years. He said he visited his son in Llandudno police station four days after Sophie had been murdered. Hughes, 31, denies murdering and raping Sophie on July 30 last year after she was snatched from a tent in her uncle's garden in Llandudno, north Wales.

Hughes's father, grey-haired and wearing a grey suit, said he asked his son: "I want to know whether or not you committed this offence."

He told the jury that his son asked him to go to the corner of the room where they could not be seen or heard. "And then he said, 'Yes Dad, I did it' and he related how it had come about without any further prompting."

He told the court his son said he had seen some children playing in a tent in a garden on the afternoon of July 29. He had asked one of the girls to come with him but she refused, the court heard.

He told his father that he returned to the garden at about 2am the next morning, the court heard, and this time persuaded the little girl to go with him. "I asked him if he had sexually assaulted her and he said 'Yes Dad, I did,'" Mr Hughes said.

Mr Hughes told the court he asked his son where he had disposed of Sophie's night-dress. With the help of a map, Hughes told his father the whereabouts of the clothes and the route he had cycled home.

Earlier yesterday, the court heard from a girl who claimed she was approached by Hughes only hours before he is alleged to have murdered Sophie Hook, but ran to her grandmother's home where she had been spending the afternoon. The trial continues.

Jury shown film of aircraft hitting and killing soldier

By A STAFF REPORTER

A VIDEO film showing the moment a soldier was killed in an alleged game of "chicken" as he was buzzed by a low-flying RAF Hercules was shown to a jury yesterday. The film captured the transport aircraft in a low pass over South Cerney military airfield near Cirencester, Gloucestershire, in August 1994.

Private Christopher Game, 22, from Poole, Dorset, who was standing on his recovery truck roof, died from multiple injuries when struck by the rear ramp of the aircraft, which was flying at 140mph, 12ft to 14ft from the ground.

The four-minute video, captured on film shot from inside the Hercules, was the last of 21 shown during prosecution evidence at the Bristol Crown Court trial of the Hercules pilot, Squadron Leader Michael Morison, 42. He denies the

manslaughter of Private Game, a single man, on the afternoon of August 4.

For some minutes, the aircraft circled woods and fields before coming in over the airfield. The jury then saw only a blur of movement as the private's body fell from the piece of his truck's cab and a piece of the aircraft's lowered rear ramp was seen tumbling to the ground.

Private Game's divorced mother, Rose, sat in court as the film was shown. Alun Jenkins, for the prosecution, slowed the closing sequences to show the frame-by-frame movement.

The prosecution says there was a practice among the Hercules crew, including Squadron Leader Morison, to make very low-level passes after a completed drop operation. Those unauthorised

passes were said to have had no operational value and were aimed at creating excitement and bravado among the air crew and people on the ground.

Mark Evans, QC, for the Crown, said: "It was a game that could be described in some ways as playing chicken." The squadron leader had aimed the aircraft with the intention of passing low and "buzzing" Private Game and others in the drop zone, he said.

Both men were stationed at Brize Norton, Oxfordshire. Private Game was the driver of a recovery truck fitted with a jib crane. The crane controls were on the roof of his cab.

The prosecution maintains the pilot was criminally negligent because of the risk involved.

The trial continues.

Police stalk toddler and his toy gun

By CAROL MIDDLEY

POLICE, who surrounded a car after being told that there was a gunman inside, found a three-year-old boy playing with a toy pistol.

Scott Schillemore, had been given the plastic cap-gun to keep him quiet while his mother did her shopping but passers-by in Portsmouth mistook the child for an armed kidnapper.

Officers followed the boy, his mother, Marie, 28, and her parents as they made the mile-long journey to their home. When their car stopped it was surrounded by officers in flak jackets. The occupants were ordered to stand with their hands on the car roof while they were searched.

Sergeant Colin Michie of Portsmouth police control room said officers had responded to two calls saying a "male" had been seen waving a gun.

P.D. James leads scathing attack on Birt's World Service reforms

By ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

P.D. JAMES, the best-selling novelist, mounted a scathing attack on John Birt, Director-General of the BBC and his chairman Sir Christopher Bland yesterday over their plans to reorganise and break up the World Service.

Baroness James, a former BBC governor, said that Mr Birt and Sir Christopher had displayed "extraordinary arrogance" in announcing a radical shake-up of the World Service without consulting its staff.

Speaking at a lobby of Parliament organised to mobilise public and political opposition to the reforms, she said she did not know whether to be more appalled by the reorganisation itself or by the way it was announced.

"Arrogance, extraordinary arrogance, I would like to say, both to John Birt, and to the new Chairman — they do not own the BBC. The World



P.D. James was highly critical of the reforms and how they have been introduced by John Birt



Service is not a private company. It belongs to this country and ... the people the world."

Lady James said that millions of people throughout the world depended on the World Service adding that "it would be absolutely scandalous if two men are allowed to destroy it". She was joined at the

rally by Terry Waite and John McCarthy, the former Beirut hostages; Mark Tully, the BBC's former Delhi correspondent; Ben Okri, the Booker Prize-winning novelist; and Charles Kennedy, the Liberal Democrat MP.

Mr Waite, who listened to the World Service when he was a hostage, said he was

"offended and insulted" by the BBC's plans. The World Service, like other cherished British institutions, was being "smashed" for economic reasons with no real understanding of its aims.

Given that the BBC charter calls for public consultation before any major changes are made ... how do the governors explain the secrecy surrounding the changes announced by the Director General and the lack of consultation within the Corporation let alone with any member of the public?

Under Mr Birt's plans, which were kept secret until a hastily called press conference last month, the World Service will have to buy in its English language news reports and entertainment programming from two centralised BBC News and BBC Production divisions, which will also be serving the BBC's domestic departments. However, it will retain direct control for its vernacular services.

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Hospital blamed in report on overdose death

■ A professor of obstetric anaesthesia who investigated a patient's death from a drug overdose found seven errors made by the hospital, Dominic Kennedy reports

THE private hospital where a woman patient was injected with ten times the correct dose of painkiller was partly to blame for her death, an expert medical report says.

Princess Grace Hospital in London is one of the most renowned in Britain and charges £416 a day. Its patients have included the footballer Paul Gascoigne and the actress Wendy Richard.

But the hospital was negligent in its care for Carole Burwash, 53, according to Felicity Reynolds, professor of obstetric anaesthesia, who prepared a report on the death for a police investigation ordered by the Westminster Coroner.

Yesterday Mrs Burwash's husband, Brian, a businessman, said: "The hospital has thick carpets and the wine list has super Chablis. But they didn't bloody well have an anaesthetist late at night to save my wife."

Mrs Burwash, a fit housewife whose hobbies were golf, tennis and swimming, needed a hysterectomy because of

problems associated with the menopause. She was admitted to the hospital in Marylebone, west London, last October. The nursing admission report described her as "feeling very anxious about both surgery and anaesthetic. Also anxious about post-op pain and being left alone."

After a successful operation, Mrs Burwash, a grandmother and mother of three, was visited in her private room by her husband and their son Rupert, 22, during the evening. They found her in happy mood, free from pain.

At 10pm, she began experiencing some pain, as would be expected, and required a top-up of epidural opiate.

She should have been given 3mg of diamorphine, a controlled drug. But the prescription had been written wrongly by the anaesthetist, Giok Lim.

It appeared to say "30gm" but since this would be much more than an expected dose, it was misinterpreted by the staff nurse and the resident medical officer, Richard Hornabrook, as 30mg, which



Giok Lim, whose prescription for diamorphine was misinterpreted, and Brian Burwash, second right, with his sons and daughter yesterday



was still ten times too much. At 10.40pm, Mrs Burwash was found collapsed. Dr Hornabrook tried to resuscitate her but had no specific training in the required technique.

Just before 11pm, Dr Lim was telephoned and he arrived 15 minutes later. He provided the correct resuscitation method, intubation, which involves passing a breathing tube into the windpipe. The 35-minute

delay before Mrs Burwash was effectively resuscitated would have contributed to her death, three days later, from brain damage, according to Professor Reynolds's report for the police. The Crown Prosecution Service decided against criminal charges.

Professor Reynolds identified seven errors that led to the death. She said Dr Lim was most responsible for negligence because of his incorrect-

ly written prescription and the absence of direct communication with Dr Hornabrook.

The hospital was negligent because it had no trained resuscitation team, no protocol for epidural opioids and had appointed an RMO without anaesthetic experience.

Her report said: "Probably the most important inherent drawback of a private hospital, or indeed any small isolated hospital, is that there is no

resident anaesthetist to top up epidurals and, above all, to provide an efficient resuscitation service. Any medicine or surgery practised under such circumstances is therefore inevitably less safe than a National Health Service Hospital with an appropriate complement of resident staff."

Mr Burwash, 60, a leading figure in the recruitment business, had bought a home on Alderney to which he and his

wife intended to retire. She was a popular hostess at dinner parties, an active member of Hampstead Parish Church and drove her husband to work every day. Her organs have been transplanted into seven people.

Mr Burwash, who wants compensation from the hospital, said: "The CPS lacked the courage to bring criminal charges against those who killed my wife."

Overdose death

Continued from page 1

emergency resuscitation. He had been on duty for 14 hours when he was asked to top up Mrs Burwash's epidural, although he said that did not affect his judgment. Both he and the staff nurse, Mandy Hatcher, had read the drug chart as saying 30mg.

The coroner agreed that the entry on the chart was unclear — although on balance he thought it read 3 rather than 30 — but even after Dr Hornabrook overdose had been given, vital clues were missed.

Although large doses of painkiller were not unusual at the hospital, only small amounts should have been given by epidural. And when nurses noticed that Mrs Burwash had fallen asleep within a minute, alarm bells should have rung as it was one of the first signs of respiratory difficulties.

Then, when it came to the resuscitation attempt, there was no back-up. Dr Hornabrook was the only doctor on duty and it was not until Dr Lim was called from home that a tube could be placed into Mrs Burwash's throat to help her breathe.

Felicity Reynolds, a professor in obstetric anaesthesia, said Mrs Burwash might have lived, but the staff failed to recognise the danger signals of massive overdosing and did not act swiftly enough. The hospital did not have an adequate crash team on site. She added that in all

hospitals, NHS and private, doctors were expected to be jack-of-all-trades, but this was not easy to do.

Mr Burwash told the inquest that at around 1am he was telephoned by the consultant in charge of her case who said there had been an appalling mistake. He raced to the hospital and spoke with Dr Hornabrook. "He was contrite and made no attempt to hide away. He came out and told me face-to-face," Mrs Burwash was transferred to the Middlesex NHS hospital, where she died three days later.

Yesterday, Mr Burwash said that he would be taking civil action against the Princess Grace, although no amount of money would replace his wife. "I would pay a million pounds to have her back. But I can never have her back. I feel very disappointed about both doctors," he said.

The coroner said that he would be writing to the hospital urging it to keep its procedures constantly under review, but Keith Erskine, chief executive of the Princess Grace Hospital, said last night that already happened. There had been an internal inquiry into the death of Mrs Burwash and Dr Hornabrook and Miss Hatcher had been suspended, but both had since been reinstated.

Mr Erskine said: "Fundamentally the hospital has always felt it was the most tragic of accidents. All our sympathies are with the family."

Doctors who hid cancer biopsy error are cleared

By DIANA THORP

TWO doctors who did not tell a young mother dying of cancer that two biopsies had been wrongly diagnosed were found not guilty of serious professional misconduct yesterday.

The professional conduct committee of the General Medical Council concluded that the evidence against Christopher Simpson, 48, a consultant surgeon, and Dr James Ferguson, 59, the medical director of South Ayrshire Hospitals NHS Trust, was insufficient to support a finding of serious professional misconduct.

Carol Ann Clark, 32, died in August 1994 of breast cancer after two biopsies in August and September 1993 were wrongly diagnosed. The mother of two and part-time auxiliary nurse became pregnant after the all-clear and had to have a termination when the cancer was diagnosed in February 1994.

Mrs Clark was not told about the wrong diagnoses of the biopsies, which were discovered in February 1994. Dr Clark learnt about them only at a meeting with Mr Simpson in October 1994. It had been alleged that Mrs Clark was not informed because the doctors feared a big compensation claim.

Philip Gaisford, counsel for Mr Simpson, told the hearing that there was no duty in 1994 for a doctor to answer questions about mistakes in past treatment, especially by other people. He said the first impulse of any doctor was to act in the best interest of the patient. It was not Mr Simp-

son's mistake but the mistake of a pathologist that caused the error.

"Mr Simpson was making a decision in what he perceived to be the best interest of the patient," Mr Gaisford said. "He did not keep it to himself. He told Dr Ferguson on the evidence and he told the general practitioner as well."

"There is no evidence here that he was connected with any cover-up. There was no evidence that he was told of the death of Mrs Clark. There is no evidence that Mr Simpson could have benefited from any cover-up."

Mr Gaisford said Mr Simpson admitted the charge that he had been informed in February 1994 that there was a reporting error in the biopsies, but denied the allegation that at a meeting with Mr and Mrs Clark on May 17, 1994 he was asked about the results of two biopsies.

He had also admitted he did not disclose to Mrs Clark that the report of the biopsies had been found to be incorrect. Dr Ferguson denied charges that a letter he wrote to Mr Clark before the death was misleading.

Outside the hearing yesterday Mr Clark said knowing the truth would have made a difference to him and his wife.

He said that the decision was "obviously disappointing". However, he hoped everything that had come out during the case would make the South Ayrshire NHS Trust and the two doctors concerned review their relationships with patients and relatives. The doctors left without comment.



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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

Quarter-finalist follows in footsteps of great grandmother, grandmother, grandfather and mother

Wimbledon hope Henman keeps the family flag flying

By ADRIAN LEE AND JOANNA BAILE

WHEN Tim Henman strides onto the Centre Court at Wimbledon today, the first Briton to appear in a men's quarter final for 23 years, he will be carrying on a family tradition that stretches over four generations.

Henman's 84-year-old grandmother Susan Billington, the last woman to serve underarm at the championships, will be there to watch, no doubt remembering her late husband Henry, a Wimbledon star of the 1940s.

His great grandmother, Ellen Mary Stawell-Brown, Mrs Billington's mother, astonished society by becoming the first woman to serve overarm at Wimbledon, scoring a famous victory over the five times champion, Charlotte "Chatty" Cooper.

Speaking at her home in Thatcham, Berkshire, Mrs Billington, who is a member of the All England Club and watched her 21-year-old grandson's last match against the Swede Magnus Gustaf-

sson from the royal box, said: "Tim reminds me very much of my late husband. I am extremely proud that he is following in his footsteps, as are the rest of the family."

From birth, Henman has been steeped in the tennis tradition. He began playing at the age of three on a court at his home in Oxford, coached by his mother Jane, who played Junior Wimbledon.

He says: "When I got older I liked to think that I was following in my grandfather's footsteps by playing at Wimbledon, but probably the most important factor from my background was that we had a court at home, and I always had someone to practise with."

After being trained as a child by David Lloyd, Henman left school at 16 with ten GCSEs to concentrate on his tennis career. He joined the junior tour and steadily made his name on the international circuit. He did not come to the attention of most tennis fans until last year's Wimbledon when he was disqualified and fined nearly £2,000 for gross code violations during a doubles match. He hit a ball girl when smashing a ball in a fit of temper.

This week, with "Henmania" reaching fever pitch, fans have been queuing for tickets since Monday morning. At their head is a 79-year-old gentleman who has camped on the pavement each year for a quarter of a century. In 1973 Bob Sunley, from Ammanford, Dyfed, saw the Briton Roger Taylor play during the championships but missed the quarter final.

Mr Sunley, a former accountant, is on first name terms with his neighbours in the queue and last night they had a barbecue. Armed with a weighty Mary Wesley novel, a supply of crosswords and a



Tim Henman, relaxing yesterday ahead of the quarter final, said he was trying to concentrate on the match, not the hype surrounding it

one-man tent, Mr Sunley said he was never bored.

"One can always lie back and have a sleep, and fortunately I am retired so I have nothing very much to do," he said.

As the line grew, beneath a cardboard sign marked "This is the Q for Tim on Wednesday", excitement was already high. "Henman clearly has great potential and let's hope he makes the top grade," Mr Sunley said.

"I saw Roger Taylor beat Borg in '73 but didn't realise then how good a player Borg was going to be. It is against the odds for Henman to win, but it would be wonderful."

Mr Sunley, who said his

wife hated tennis and viewed his annual pilgrimages with "amused tolerance", once travelled from Africa, where he was working, to take his place in the Wimbledon queue. To mark his twenty-first year on the pavement outside the gates, he was presented with free tickets by officials.

Henman spent some of yesterday practising on outside courts as Todd Martin, his 26-year-old American opponent, the number 13 seed, completed a four-set victory over Thomas Johansson.

As he left his flat in Chiswick, west London, Henman said playing in front of a home audience was "special". But he was trying to focus on the

game rather than the hype surrounding it.

Martin said he was relishing the prospect of becoming the most hated man on Centre Court and would try to block out the crowd. "It's a tennis match, I've got to go out there and do my job."

He paid tribute to the Englishman. "Everything has improved. He has added a few pounds and that has helped his weight of shot and his serve has got better."

The pair have met once previously at Queens when Martin, born in Illinois but now a resident of Florida, won. He held the distinction of being the tallest player — 6ft 6ins — since 1973 to enter the

tennis world top ten, when he reached number five two years ago. He reached the semi-final at Wimbledon in the same year and has won more than £2 million prize money.

Henman yesterday won support from the man he is emulating, Roger Taylor. At Wimbledon for a veterans' game, Taylor said he believed Henman was capable of getting to the final. "What sets him aside from the other British players, perhaps, is his temperament. He can handle the pressure as he gets close to making a semi-final or final."

In his home village of Weston-on-the-Green, Oxfordshire, supporters are willing Henman to victory. His local

pub, the Ben Jonson, has created a cocktail called the Henman Smash.

Jane Henman yesterday bought supplies of bananas from the village store: her son eats 2lbs of them a day.

Staff and pupils at Henman's Oxford preparatory school, the Dragon, were also cheering on their old boy. Roger Trafford, the head teacher, said: "We're obviously extremely proud of him. It's not just the fact Tim is playing excellent tennis, it's the way he has conducted himself, too. This is exactly the kind of example we want our pupils to follow."

Wimbledon, pages 48, 49, 52



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All will pay under government proposals aimed at getting better value from a fairer system

Shake-up aims to curb £1.4bn costs of justice

By FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

PROPOSALS to curb the £1.4 billion cost of the legal aid scheme, by controlling costs and making everyone pay towards their legal bills, were announced by the Lord Chancellor yesterday.

In the biggest shake-up of the scheme since its creation 46 years ago, a White Paper set out the first controls on what has always been a demand-led scheme. Cash limits will be placed on the legal aid budget and lawyers will no longer be paid by hourly rates. Legal services will come from a range of sources as well as lawyers, including citizens' advice bureaux and law centres. They will be awarded block contracts to provide services in bulk, within fixed budgets and on condition that they meet strict quality criteria.

Everyone, including the low-paid, will have to pay a contribution to costs in civil and criminal cases. They will also be liable for an opponent's costs should they lose.

The White Paper, called *Striking the Balance*, aims to stop the injustice of the present system for those facing legally aided opponents. It also hopes to prevent the "waste" caused by pursuing weak and trivial cases. Each case will be considered under tough standards of "deservingness".

The plans announced by

- MAIN POINTS**
- Cash limits on the legal aid scheme
 - Legal services to be delivered by range of providers, working to quality controls and fixed budgets
 - Sanctions on unsatisfactory providers
 - Payment required: flat rate plus ongoing contributions in both civil and criminal legal aid
 - Liability for opponent's costs
 - Legal Aid Board to have power to recoup costs from future sale of a home
 - Test of "deservingness", including chance of success
 - Separate budget for major, expensive cases

Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, will revolutionise the present system, introducing elements of the private sector and an NHS-style internal market into legal services.

Lord Mackay said that the reforms were aimed at creating a legal aid scheme "that, pound for pound, buys more and better services; that targets those services only on cases that deserve support by the taxpayer; and which is fairer to the opponents of legally aided people".

In 1995/96, legal aid cost the taxpayer £1.4 billion, twice as much as five years ago. The average cost of legal aid bills has risen more than the rate of inflation and stands at nearly £2,500. But fewer people are helped by the scheme. Only about 50 per cent of households are eligible, compared with 70 per cent in the early 1980s.

Instead of the Government

paying all legal aid bills as they arrive, in future it will determine what money should be spent, how and on whom. Contracts will be awarded on a rolling basis and will not be renewed at the same time to quell fears that people would be denied access to justice because funds had run out at the end of the year.

The Government's arrival as a big purchaser of legal services is expected to have a knock-on effect in the private sector, with insurance companies offering legal services for fixed rates. Legal expenses insurance and "no win, no fee" fees may also have a significant role.

People with legal expenses insurance will not be eligible for legal aid, regardless of means. The Government is considering whether to make it a rule that a person seeks legal advice on a "no win, no fee" basis before being allowed legal aid.

The White Paper says: "Solicitors and barristers in private practice will continue to play the largest role." But advice agencies, salaried lawyers, mediators and others will play a part. The public will be encouraged to seek ways of settling disputes outside the courts.

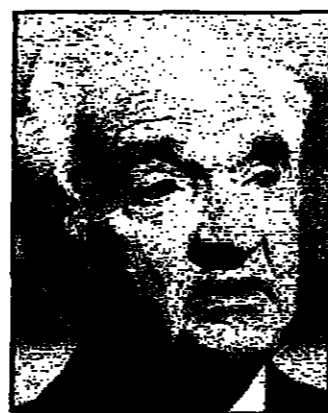
Under the proposals, to be phased in over several years if approved, there will be a flat-rate fee in civil and family cases, possibly £10 to £20, payable by all including those receiving benefits. Further contributions will be sought from those who can afford them.

There will be an upper limit on contributions, and possibly a time limit set for payments. The Legal Aid Board will be able to recover any outstanding costs from the future sale of a legally aided person's house.

Everyone will also have to pay towards criminal legal aid. This will be awarded, as now, on the basis of the "interests of justice". Those on benefits will be entitled to a "free" first court appearance. Others will pay a fixed contribution.

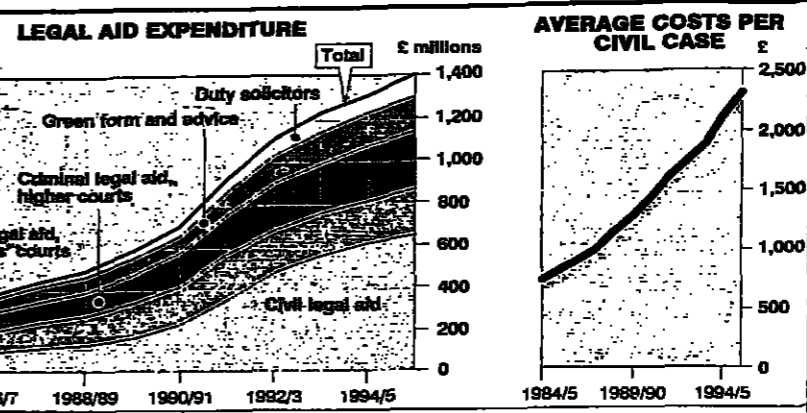
For further hearings, contributions will be decided by means testing. The amount will be refunded in the event of a defendant being acquitted.

At the heart of the plans is a determination to restore balance to the legal aid system, which is now often seen to



Lord Mackay, above, redrafting the legal aid system that was launched 46 years ago by Viscount Jowitt, below

Legal aid budget: £1.48 billion for 1996/97 — down £150 million on original government estimate after savings of £240 million over three years. Where the money goes: more than two thirds on civil legal aid, the rest on criminal. People helped: 3.5 million. Ninety per cent of legally aided litigants win their case or an out-of-court settlement. Solicitors doing legal aid: 11,000 offices around the country, of which 1,350 are franchise holders. Who is eligible? Basic legal advice: only those with a weekly disposable income below £75 qualify. Civil legal aid: less than half all households compared with nearly three quarters in 1979. Criminal: in practice, anyone facing a serious charge. Eighty-six per cent of people currently receive legal aid without paying any contribution (most are on state benefits). The average civil legal aid case costs £2,200. The soaring costs in legal aid of the late Eighties and early Nineties are levelling off. The annual gross rise for 1995/96 is estimated at 5 per cent compared with 32 per cent in 1991/92.



operate at the expense of those who fall outside the legal aid limits. The White Paper says: "The needs of people who require help must be balanced against the rights of their unassisted opponents, and of victims and witnesses, to fair treatment."

There is also the "interests of the taxpayer in ensuring that public spending is controlled, and that money is not wasted on undeserving cases

but is made to go as far as it can to meet genuine need".

People should pay what they reasonably can towards their legal aid bills, the White Paper says, and, if appropriate, towards their opponent's cost.

It adds that people forced to defend a case against someone on legal aid rarely recover their costs, although the court has a discretion to award these in cases of severe financial hardship. The White Paper

says legally aided litigants should be in the same position as any other litigant.

It proposes a new test under which the court should award costs to prevent any opponent suffering financial hardship. But the legally aided litigant will not be ordered to pay more to the other side than the actual costs of the case.

The Government believes that the reforms will be a "vote-catcher" that will appeal

to Middle England, on the grounds of giving the taxpayer better value for money and ensuring that middle-income groups are not vulnerable to an open-ended legal aid ticket to sue.

□ *Striking the Balance: the Future of Legal Aid in England and Wales* (Stationery Office; £11.80)

Leading article, page 21

CASES THAT TRIGGERED LEGAL AID DEBATE

How public money went to 'rich and undeserving'

LEGAL aid payments have repeatedly caused controversy as public money has been handed out in cases that appeared trivial or undeserving and to claimants who seemed to have access to ample funds of their own.

Announcing his plans to reorganise the system last week, Lord Mackay of Clashfern admitted that public confidence in legal aid was at "a dangerously low ebb".

Before the current case of the cancer patient Cyril Smith, given legal aid to sue the health service because he was told he had only months to live, the following actions made news:

Simon Foster, a former RAF officer, was awarded legal aid last month to try to force his health authority to give him a sex change.

A feud between neighbours, which began during the 1984 pit strike and was concluded

in court last month with the judge ordering each to pay the other £75, cost taxpayers a five-figure legal aid bill.

Jawad Hashim, one-time aide to the Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, obtained £4 million legal aid although he had six homes around the world. He was defending a £34 million civil fraud claim brought by the Arab Monetary Fund.

A German inventor living in Italy sued Sony in the High Court in April at a cost to the British taxpayer of £900,000.

A robber turned informer was given aid in February to sue a chief constable over allegedly unpaid "tip-off fees".

Legal aid was granted to Steve Charalambous, an armed robber, so he could sue police for the "pain and distress" caused when he was shot during a robbery. The aid was later withdrawn. A car thief was given aid in Febru-

ary to sue Devon County Council after trapping his finger in a cell door.

The Moors murderer Ian Brady was awarded aid in January to pursue a privacy action against a newspaper.

Roger Levitt, the wealthy insurance businessman, was aided when convicted of fraud in 1994 and sentenced to 180 hours' community service. He and three other defendants were estimated to have cost the taxpayer £3.7 million.

The financier Peter Clowes, jailed for ten years for defrauding Barlow Clowes shareholders, was given aid but he and his wife were later ordered to pay damages of at least £6 million to the Department of Trade and Industry.

Ernest Saunders, the former £350,000-a-year chairman of Guinness, was on legal aid when he faced a fraud charge and a £5 billion civil claim after the takeover of Distillers.

When an unjust scheme left a winning litigant out of pocket

A CIVIL servant in Liverpool found himself with a bill of £20,000 after he successfully defended a claim on behalf of his wife's late parents. Michael Derbyshire's case is typical of the injustice under the present legal aid scheme, by which a winning litigant can be out of pocket after being forced to court by someone on legal aid.

The dispute was over the ownership of a run-down two-roomed property, the Toll House at Cwmduad near Carmarthen, Dyfed. Mr Derbyshire's father-in-law, the late

Leslie Hartley, took a weekly tenancy of the house 30 years ago and agreed a rent with Elizabeth Jones, who claimed to be the owner. Counter-ownership claims led to a dispute and Mr Hartley found himself facing conflicting demands for rent. He said he would pay no more until the dispute was settled.

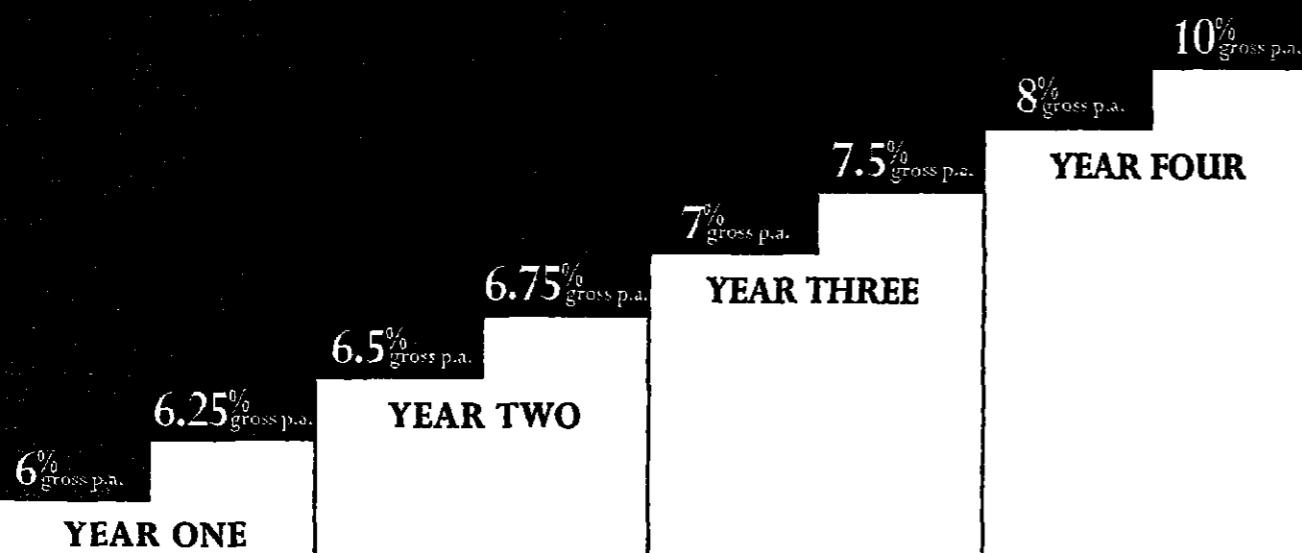
Mrs Jones died. But her son had married and separated and his estranged wife's daughter was granted legal aid to pursue the claim against the Hartleys. Mr Hartley died and his widow, Margaret,

faced a claim for possession, rent arrears and damages.

The case was thrown out but went to appeal — again on legal aid. Mrs Hartley died before it was heard and Mr Derbyshire felt morally obliged to take over as defendant. Again, the claim was thrown out but he has still failed to recoup costs of about £20,000 from the Legal Aid Board. He was offered £3,500.

John Conlon, his solicitor, yesterday said: "Whether the reforms go far enough to rectify this injustice we shall have to wait and see."

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Woman whose main occupation was said to be shopping must make do on £8.8m

Billionaire's ex-wife faces £1.5m bill for divorce challenge

By MICHAEL HORSVELL

AN AMERICAN socialite who demanded a bigger divorce settlement from her billionaire husband yesterday lost a Court of Appeal attempt to increase her £8.85 million award. She now faces a £1.5 million bill for legal costs.

Katina Dart, 38, whose principal occupation was said to be shopping, lost her action to have the award increased to £120 million. Mrs Dart, whose lifestyle included flying in the family jet from their London home to Michigan for dental appointments, challenged the settlement made by her husband, Robert.

Mr Dart's family firm, Dart Container Corp, founded in 1937, manufactures polystyrene containers used by fast-food restaurants. The family moved to Britain for financial reasons in 1993 and Mr Dart, 37, shortly afterwards filed for divorce. It was claimed that he knew a settlement in the English courts would be a fraction of what he would have to pay in America, a practice known in legal circles as "forum shopping".

He was granted a decree nisi last July and in April Mr Justice Johnson awarded Mrs Dart £8.85 million in the High Court. Her counsel, the leading divorce QC James Munby, argued that a judge in the couple's home state of Michi-



Robert Dart: moved for financial reasons

gan would have awarded up to £200 million and said settlement scales should be harmonised throughout comparable legal systems.

Yesterday Lady Justice Butler-Sloss, with Lords Justices Gibson and Thorpe, turned down her plea to have the settlement increased. After their 37-page judgment was

handed down, Margaret Bennett, Mrs Dart's solicitor, said: "This will mean a major cut in her lifestyle. She had the benefit of a private jet at her disposal at any time. She lives in a very large house and the settlement left little provision for her to have the help of staff."

The couple, who were high-school sweethearts, were married in 1980 in Lansing, Michigan, and Mrs Dart has returned to their 30-acre estate there with the children, William, 13, and Ariana, 10.

The case, which has been to court 23 times, remains unfinished. After leave to appeal to the House of Lords was turned down, Mrs Dart's lawyers said yesterday that they might apply directly to the Law Lords. Meanwhile action will continue in the American courts. Mr and Mrs Dart were both said to be abroad yesterday and unwilling to comment.

The Appeal Court in effect left intact the so-called "millionaire's defence" in big-money settlements which has made the English divorce courts attractive to wealthy husbands. Under that defence, the courts award wives not a proportion of their husband's wealth, but an amount they consider sufficient to keep them in the style to which they have become accustomed. Lady Justice Butler-Sloss



Katina Dart: claimed that the divorce settlement had left little provision for her to have the help of staff

did hint that the time may be close for British courts to make higher awards in cases involving the seriously rich.

Mr Justice Johnson had ruled that Mrs Dart was entitled to a lump sum award of £8.85 million and that Mr Dart should also pay £2,500 a month maintenance for each child. The lump sum was conditional on Mrs Dart

transferring her interest in a house in Kensington, London, to her husband and relinquishing her interest in two Porsches, a Ferrari, another car and a painting, and transferring 1,624 shares in the Dart Container Corp to him.

The court was told that the original £8.85 million award was designed to meet Mrs Dart's needs for the occasional

plane charter, a small second house and her wardrobe. During the case, however, it became clear that the continuance of her lifestyle might require a bigger sum.

She has maintained a team of bodyguards at her American home, where an enormous swimming pool is the envy of neighbours. Her favourite cars, among a fleet of others,

are said to include a Jaguar XJ6 and a limited-edition Jeep Cherokee.

Mrs Dart maintains she agreed to move to London with her husband three years ago only after his father, co-founder of the family business, promised to set up offshore trusts in which she and her husband would each receive £300 million.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mother, 19, killed on tractor ride

A 19-year-old mother was crushed to death when she fell under a six-tonne tractor that had been stolen from a compound near Wigan. Christine Gould was riding down a dirt track on the giant digger with her mother and a teenage friend when she slipped and was dragged under the metal tracks, police believe. The two others jumped to safety before the tractor careered into a lake.

First gas station

Britain's first purpose-built gas filling station has been opened by Earl Ferrers, the Environment Minister. It will provide fuel for Citybus in Southampton, a fleet of 16 buses powered by compressed natural gas.

Farming deaths

The number of farm workers killed in agricultural accidents rose to 21 in 1995-96, compared with 14 in the previous 12 months, according to the Health and Safety Executive. Total farm deaths remained steady at 48.

Wing and prayer

The Rev Anthony Kelton, a pentecostal minister from Co Durham who admits to being terrified of heights, has agreed to marry a couple from Gloucestershire next month while wing-walking on a bi-plane.

Harriers die

Four young Montagu's harriers reared in a nest that had been guarded to foil egg collectors have been killed by foxes. They died three days after a 24-hour watch on the nest in the New Forest, Hampshire, was called off.

Flower power

Bovis has agreed to dig up a wild flower meadow at Wilmetote, Warwickshire, and re-lay it quarter of a mile away before building 49 homes on the site. The company will also maintain the meadow for three years.

Crime did not pay for armed robber who stole to save his marriage

A MAN who turned to armed robbery in a fruitless attempt to save his marriage was jailed for 11 years yesterday. Carl Morris's wife, Mandy, divorced him and tipped off police after she had helped to spend most of his share of the proceeds from the £286,000 security van raid, the Old Bailey was told. The money was spent on holiday

homes, cars and champagne parties. William Clegg, QC, for Morris, said: "He decided to commit the crime because he had marriage problems. He was taking home only £200 a week as a manual labourer and his wife found it difficult to budget. They had got into deep financial trouble."

"When he got the money he spent

it on his wife and their young son, trying to patch up a failing marriage. But the marriage failed anyway and it is fair to say that his wife finally left him only after she had managed to spend a good deal of the proceeds."

"Carl hoped to set himself and his wife up in business for the rest of their lives but that did not happen,

and now he has lost everything." Morris's brother Adam, 32, who worked as a Securix guard and provided inside knowledge for the robbery, was jailed for 13 years.

Ian Darling, for the prosecution, said that Carl Morris ambushed the van in December 1994 as his brother and his unsuspecting colleague, Rick Potter, 30, were collect-

ing from a supermarket in Poplar, east London.

Carl Morris burst into the van wearing a balaclava and brandishing a fake pistol. Mr Potter was bound, gagged and blindfolded so that he was unable to see his colleague helping the robber to drill into the van's safe. Before escaping, Carl Morris tied up his brother.

After her marriage ended bitterly last year Mrs Morris, 28, went to the police. "She told the police her husband had turned up with a sack of money which he hid in the loft," Mr Darling said.

Carl, of Romford, east London, and Adam, of Dagenham, admitted robbery and possessing an imitation firearm with intent.

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Warmer summers and more tourists are forecast — but so too are storms, floods and mosquitoes

Global warming will bring Paris weather to the South

By NICK NUTTALL
ENVIRONMENT
CORRESPONDENT

THE South of England will enjoy the weather of the Paris Basin as global warming pushes the climate of Europe northwards, scientists said yesterday.

But the benefits of average summer temperatures 1.6C hotter by 2050 will be overwhelmed by a sharp rise in gales, storms and the loss of wildlife. The ski industry in Scotland will collapse and up to 400,000 hectares of land in the Fens will be at risk from flooding as sea levels rise.

John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, said: "While it may seem attractive for the South of England to inherit the climate presently enjoyed by the residents of the Paris Basin and the Loire, this shift also has disadvantages. Such changes could have far-reaching effects on our society, environment and global economy."

The findings come in the



Professor Martin Parry, one of the researchers, predicts that many species will be unable to adapt

first detailed study of how global warming will affect Britain. The scientists believe the landscape and lifestyle of the country will be changed forever by 2030 to 2050 with climate zones pushed northwards by more than 125 miles.

The tourist industry and wine makers will benefit and continental butterflies will be

come commonplace. But Professor Martin Parry of University College London, one of the scientists behind the report, said he believed that overall there would be more negative impacts.

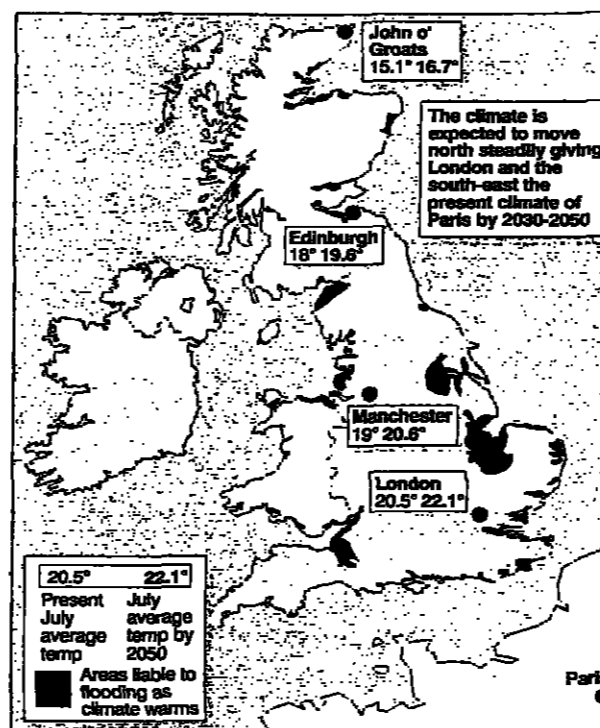
The report, which will be used by the Government to plan water resources and sea walls, concludes that the

record-breaking summer temperatures of 1976 and 1995 will, by 2050, be happening every three years.

Patterns of rainfall will change with the South becoming arid and the North becoming far wetter. The scientists, drawn from universities and institutes across Britain, believe diseases, especially those such as malaria that are carried by insects, will increase.

Some species of plant, such as damp-loving ferns and mosses are likely to disappear unless they are relocated northwards. But even these measures might not be enough to save some mountain plants and animals.

Professor Parry, chairman of the Climate Change Impacts Review Group, said species likely to be lost included the mountain hare and the Arctic char fish of the Lake District. Ice Age relics and Alpine species that survive in mountain ranges such as the Cairngorms will be the worst hit. These include the snowy



owl, ptarmigan and snow bunting. The scientists believe some vulnerable species will have to be moved northwards along wildlife "corridors". The heathland in areas such as Dorset that is home to the sand lizard will become more prone to fires.

Coastal dune systems may

be invaded more rapidly by alien species such as the Houtenot fig and imported pond weeds, such as American duckweed, are expected to overrun rivers and streams. Insurance claims are likely to rise as storms and floods cause structural damage.

The report comes in the run-

FORECAST 2030

There will be positive and negative impacts on the British Isles from climate change by 2030 to 2050, scientists said.

Weather and water supplies: Temperatures will rise by about 0.2C a decade, reaching an average 1.6C hotter than now. There will be more rain but it will be mainly in the North with the North West wetter by 7 per cent. In the South, summer rainfall will fall 8 per cent. Demand for irrigation water in the South will soar 63 per cent, putting further pressure on supplies. More windy days are forecast and the frequency of gales across the whole country is expected to climb by a third.

Sea Levels: A hotter world will raise sea levels as the oceans expand. Sea levels could rise 37cm but the impact will be severest in the South and East, where the land is sinking, so the actual rise could be as high as 50cm. Low-lying areas will be at increased risk of flooding and vulnerable to more storms. About 400,000 ha might be at risk in the Fens alone.

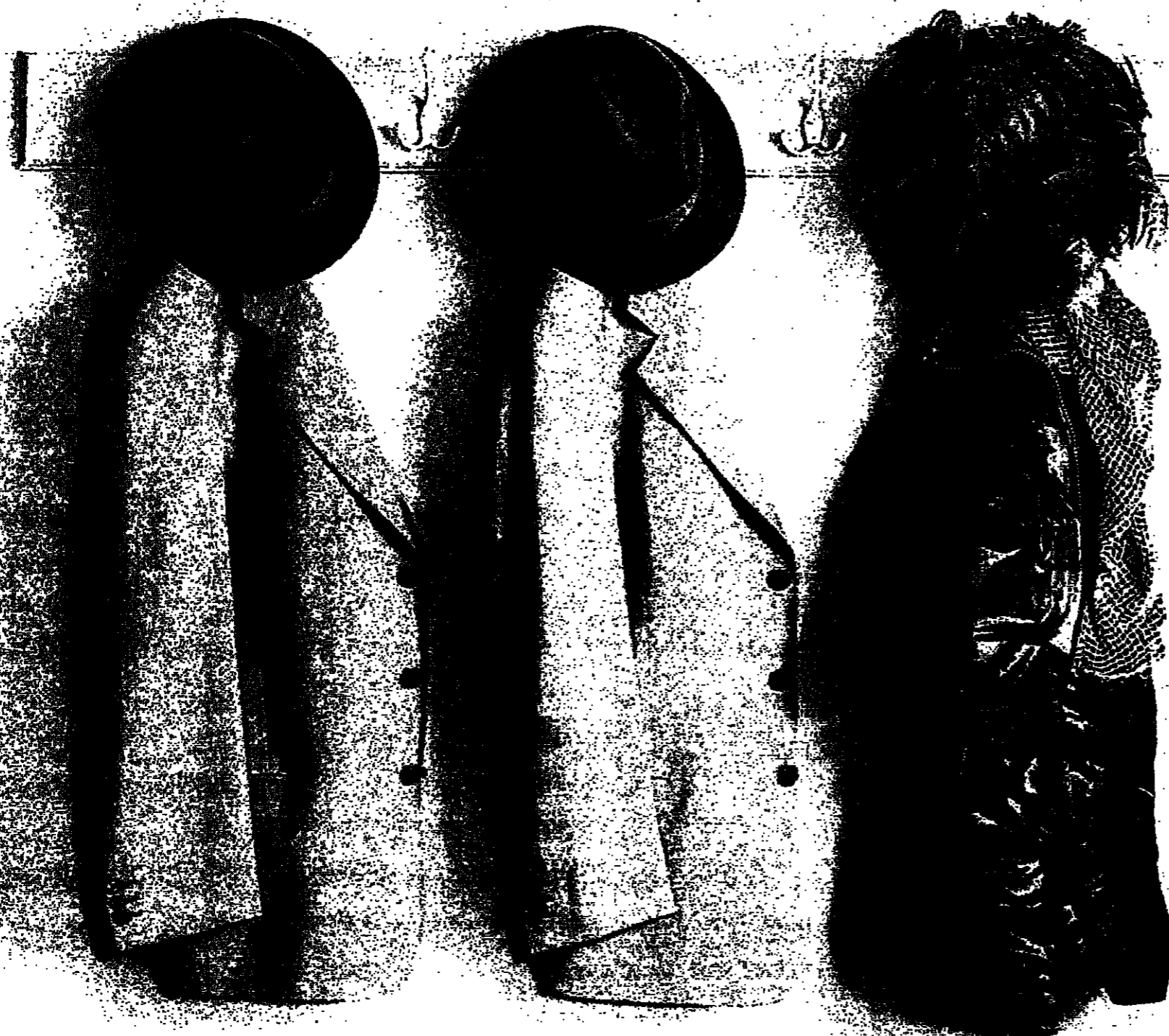
Agriculture and Forestry: Timber production, mainly centred on introduced conifer species, is likely to increase 15 per cent by 2050. Some sensitive species, such as beeches, could die out. Urban trees, such as limes and planes, in the South will suffer from more pests and drought. Wetter, warmer weather in the North should favour dairy herds. Sunflowers and maize could replace wheat and other crops in the South. Trout farming in the South is likely to be hit by rising temperatures and low-flow rivers.

up to next week's meeting in Geneva of the parties to the Climate Change Convention. In 1992 nations agreed to stabilise emissions of carbon dioxide, the gas linked with global warming, by 2000 at 1990 levels. But many industrialised nations look set to miss the targets and there is

concern that others might be fudging their figures. The push to cut output has become bogged down in the US, the biggest emitter of global-warming gases, with Washington dithering under pressure from the Senate.

Weather, page 26

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Nine out of ten women accuse press of bias

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

NEARLY 90 per cent of women believe that newspapers are biased against their sex and more than half are offended by the way they are treated by the press, according to a study published yesterday.

Three quarters of the 500 women questioned by researchers for the pressure group Women in Journalism also said that they could not think of a single newspaper that was on their side at all.

Tabloid papers came out worse, with 77 per cent of respondents claiming they were the most biased. An analysis of similar stories about men and women showed a significant degree of sexism against women. When the MPs Alan Howarth and Emma Nicholson defected from the Tory party last year, Mr Howarth was seen as a moral crusader while Ms Nicholson was derided as a "vain and silly" woman.

Even in papers that criticised both of them, Ms Nicholson fared worse. She was described as "menopausal", "pseudo-feminist" and "not a serious politician", while Mr Howarth was merely "disillusioned", "batty" or "bizarre and eccentric". Speaking yesterday at the launch of the

study, Ms Nicholson said: "My treatment at the hands of the press... was startling. Reaction in many quarters was blatantly sexist."

Press coverage of the deaths of the mountaineers Alison Hargreaves and Geoff Tier prompted many stories about whether a mother should be climbing mountains but nothing on whether a father should do the same thing. Ms Hargreaves's death received 800 paragraphs of coverage, compared to just 20 for Mr Tiers. "It is clear," the study concluded, "that parenthood and dangerous sports are only an issue if you are female."

The launch of the study was attended by a number of public figures who said they had been subjected to similar bias. Clare Spottiswoode, Director-General of Gas Supply, said: "At various times... I have been likened in the press to Boadicea and Annie Oakley, and been called 'mumsy', 'the laughing regulator' and described as resembling Ingrid Bergman on a bad hair day. I have even had my character and competence assessed in an article based solely on the floral print of my dress."

Media, pages 24, 25

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Weather pre-

Independent schools say universities are biased against them

By DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

BIAS against applicants from independent schools adds to the "lottery" of gaining a university place, according to their head teachers.

One in ten sixth-formers feels let down by the system and one in five schools has experienced prejudice against students because of their race, sex or religion, or because they come from a fee-paying school. A report for the Independent Schools Information Service also said yesterday that good candidates were often rejected without interviews, most commonly for English and medicine studies.

The schools called for an overhaul of the system so that university entry was based on candidates' actual A-level results rather than predictions made up to a year before the start of courses.

Janet Lawley, head of Bury Grammar School for Girls and a co-author of the report, said: "There are small numbers of examples of apparent

prejudice where students have been questioned about their privileged background or where comments have been made that have suggested they have been less favourably looked at. For those students involved, it can make all the difference between obtaining the place they want in the right institution."

The report was based on evidence from 21,000 students at 268 independent schools. The majority were satisfied with the system but there were 42 claims of racial prejudice levelled at admissions tutors, including jokes made about Asian surnames.

One candidate had to wait five hours for an interview, a woman applicant complained that her male interviewer was "over-familiar", an applicant for a modern Greek course was interviewed in French.

Tony Higgins, chief executive of the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, said an investigation of allega-

tions from rejected medicine candidates last year showed valid reasons for the universities' decisions. "I suspect allegations of discrimination might often be borne of disappointment rather than fact." He said UCAS supported the principle of admissions based on actual results.

Vice chancellors are preparing to consult schools and universities on plans for a dual system of applications split between predicted grades and actual results.

Margaret Rudland, president of the Girls' Schools Association, said: "For one in ten students, university admissions is near enough a lottery. We would very much like to see a post-qualifications system because it would be fairer on students and a lot easier on the institutions as they would not have to cope with so many applications."

Postgraduate vacancies, page 44



Richard Lower, whose quail egg business has an annual turnover of £7,500

14-year-old tycoon cracks the market for quails' eggs

By ROBIN YOUNG

A BOY aged 14 who bought some quails for a hobby after reading a book on poultry is fast becoming one of the country's top producers of quails' eggs.

The business began just over a year ago by Richard Lower provides 40,000 eggs a year to hotels, restaurants and shops in Suffolk and Cambridgeshire.

He has attracted the attention of Della Smith and the Royal Household has told him he is to be on stand-by the next time quails' eggs are needed for a Buckingham Palace menu.

Richard, from Wepstead, near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, trades as Folly House Poultry and already has a turnover of £7,500 a year.

His birds are in a barn once occupied by the pony he outgrew and have the run of a yard outside during the day. Richard says he intends to expand quickly and he is already thinking of taking on staff. He spends two hours each weekday feeding the

birds and collecting eggs, with weekends for making deliveries.

His mother, Linda, who runs a bed and breakfast business, and father, Tim, who is in the motor trade, help with deliveries. Mrs Lower said yesterday: "Richard is totally devoted to his quails and does not really have any other hobbies. He is not like other boys of his age who will play football."

Richard says his youth has sometimes proved a handicap. "One man asked for the managing director. When I told him it was me he became very agitated. He wanted to go into partnership but I was not very interested." Some people assume he is merely a delivery boy.

He added: "The bank has been very good to me. They have bent all the rules so I can have a business account, because you are supposed to be 18. I would like to be market leader in a few years and expand into other markets such as game."

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1 accuse
of bias

Ministers urged to fight child smoking

By NIGEL HAWKES

THE Government was yesterday urged to spend the £108 million tax collected each year from cigarettes sold illegally to children to launch an anti-smoking programme.

More than 60 medical, health, consumer and children's organisations, including the cancer charities and six royal colleges of medicine, have banded together to appeal for action to stop the rise in smoking by under 16s.

A quarter of 15-year-olds are regular smokers. If the trend persists, smoking will kill about a million of today's teenagers - and children in middle age, the group said in a report called Cashing in on Children Smoking.

Dr John Britton, of the Royal College of Physicians, said: "One quarter will die in middle age, losing an average of 20 to 25 years of their lives. The other quarter will die in old age, losing an average of five to ten years of their lives."

The campaign recommends spending the £108 million on initiatives to include a ban on tobacco advertising, research into prevention of teenage smoking and a ban on smoking in all educational establishments.

Crisps lose their bite as snack for young

By ROBIN YOUNG

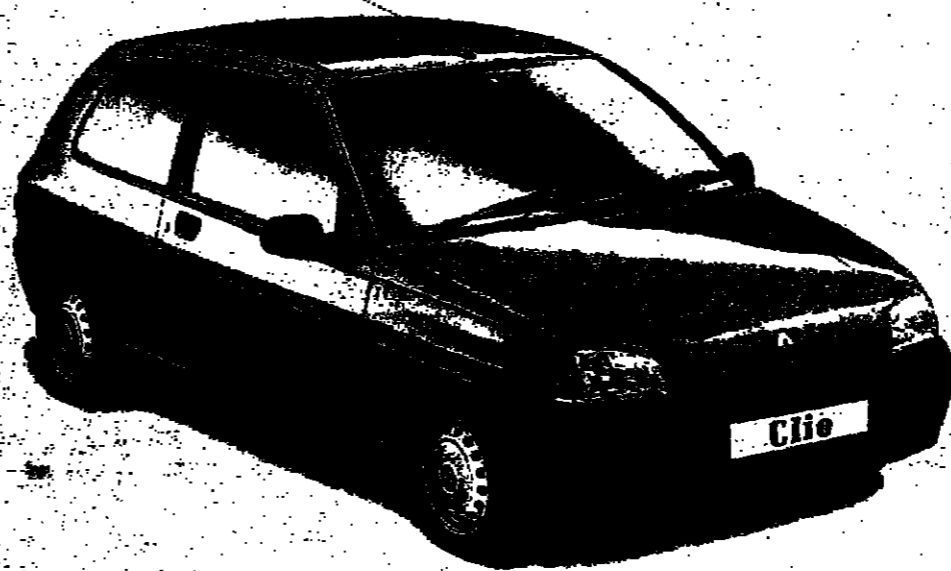
IT IS crunch time for potato crisps. For the first time they account for less than half the sales of packet snacks in the United Kingdom, a market worth £1.85 billion a year.

Market analyst Datamonitor says children now want to fill their lunchboxes with more exotic snacks, including tortilla chips. One of the latest snacks launched is packets of fresh mini-carrots, imported from America.

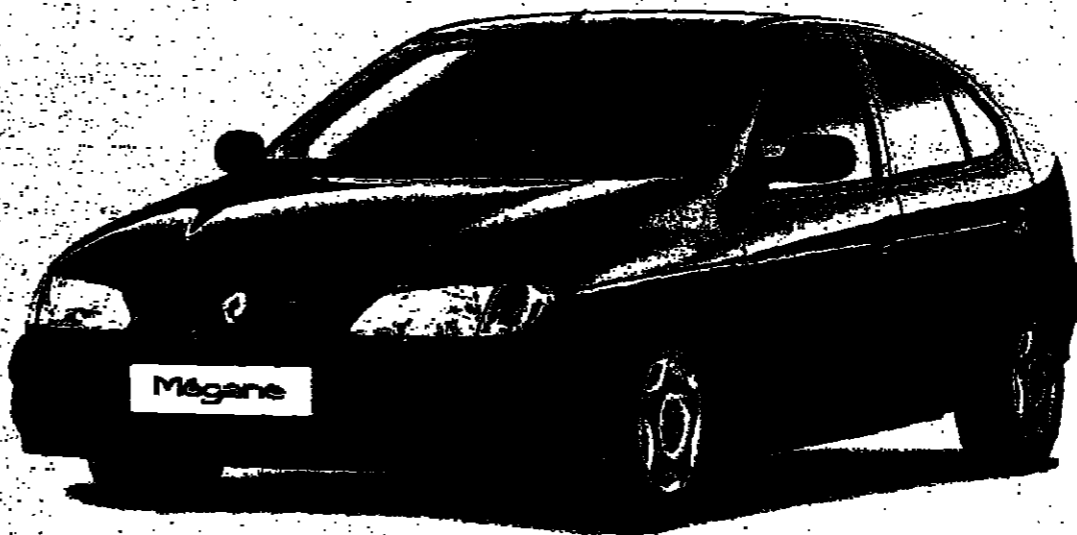
Datamonitor says crisps make up 48.7 per cent of the market, their lowest share yet. Five years ago they had 52.2 per cent of the market. Three in four children under 10 have a packet snack in their lunchbox, Datamonitor found. Sales of savoury snacks are now worth £647 million a year, up from £495 million in 1991.

Potato crisps were invented by an American Indian chef called George Crum. When the rail magnate Cornelius Vanderbilt said his potato chips were too thick, Crum sliced the next batch as finely as he could to teach his employer a lesson. Vanderbilt loved them, and the recipe was adopted internationally.

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Advert gurus create image of a Labour not worth buying

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Tory offensive launched against Labour yesterday was the first to come from the combined creative skills of Sir Tim Bell, Maurice Saatchi, and Peter Gummer.

The ageing doyens of the advertising world have been dubbed Faith, Hope and Charity by officials at Conservative Central Office. They are rivals in business but close personal friends, and are united in their desire to keep Labour out of power and secure a fifth term for the Tories. They devised the high-risk "New Labour, New Danger" strategy.

Sir Tim and Mr Saatchi were the creative forces behind Margaret Thatcher's three election victories. Peter Gummer is a relative newcomer. As head of Shandwick public relations he worked behind the scenes on the 1992 election campaign.

That was masterminded by Maurice Saatchi, Sir Tim

having been excluded from the inner-circle by Chris Patten, then the party chairman. The campaign was derided as lacklustre.

It was Sir Tim who brought the present trio together. The idea grew last summer when he helped Maurice Saatchi to establish his new company, MC Saatchi. They concluded that Tony Blair's rise in the polls owed as much to his imperviousness to incoherent Tory attacks as to any great desire among voters for a Labour government.

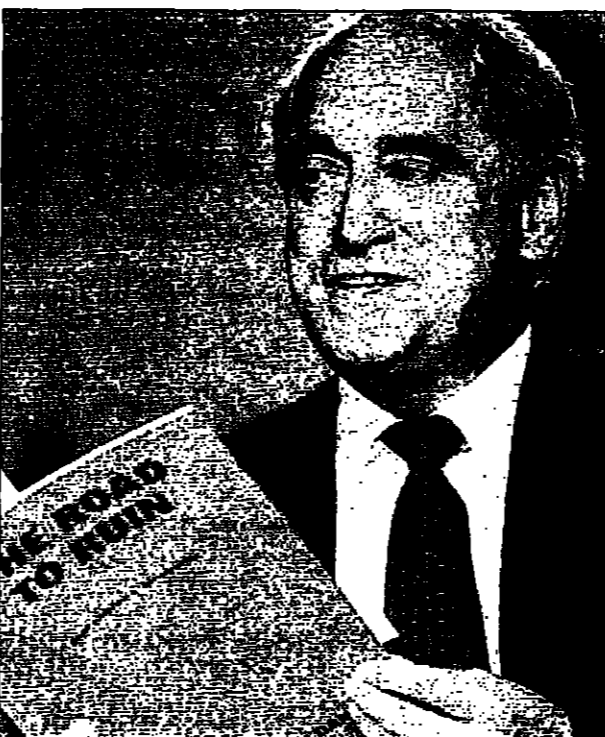
Sir Tim, at his monthly breakfast meeting with Peter Gummer at the Connaught Hotel, confided that he and Mr Saatchi were proposing to offer their services to Brian Mawhinney, the Tory Party chairman. Mr Gummer was immediately enlisted.

They met Dr Mawhinney and Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, after last year's party conference.

They unveiled a broad approach to redirect the Tory attack on the threat posed by "new" Labour. The "teflon" qualities of Mr Blair dominated the discussions. Dr Mawhinney and Mr Heseltine, frustrated by their failure to land any punches on Mr Blair, required little persuasion to change from portraying him as the smiling face of old Labour.

Mr Saatchi wrote the strategy between November and January and invented the phrase "New Labour, New Danger". At the end of January the "Three Musketeers", as they are also known at Smith Square, made a presentation to John Major in Downing Street. The Prime Minister was an instant convert. The strategy was confirmed after private research by Central Office showed that voters believed that Labour had changed under Blair.

Money rarely surfaced in



Brian Mawhinney delivering the Tory party's interpretation of new Labour thinking yesterday

the strategy discussions as assurances were given at the outset that the £10 million cost of the pre-election campaign, the longest the Tories have waged, would be underwritten. MC Saatchi will earn at least £1 million from the deal.

Hopes are high at Central Office that the campaign will run smoothly. In the past the

lines of communication between Downing Street, Central Office and the advertising people have been blurred.

Sir Tim's relationship with Mr Major is good, albeit not as close as the one he enjoys with Lady Thatcher. Mr Major is friendly with Mr Gummer but closest to Mr Saatchi. Danny Finkelstein, the head

MAWHINNEY'S GUIDE TO LABOUR POLICIES

What Labour has actually said:

Asked by Sir David Frost whether a fairer tax system meant that some people would pay less tax and quite a lot of people would pay more tax, John Prescott said: "That seems to be a reasonable interpretation about a fairer tax system."

Labour proposes to establish a new authority for London. It would have "limited spending and tax-raising powers". (A Voice for London, April 1996)

"Under my leadership I will never allow this country to be left behind or isolated in Europe." (Tony Blair to the Labour conference, 1995)

"Labour would overhaul prescription exemptions to include more people and all check-ups would be free." (David Blunkett, former health spokesman, December 10, 1995)

"The Tories spend over £100 million a year on the assisted places scheme. Under Labour the scheme will be phased out." (Tony Blair to the Labour conference, 1995)

How the Tories translate it:

Under Labour government quite a lot of people would pay more tax. Beyond that we would prefer to keep our tax plans secret. After all, we are not stupid.

The valuable work of Ken Livingstone's GLC has been sorely missed in the ten years since it was senselessly scrapped by the Tories. Londoners have consistently called for its restoration.

Labour will never allow this country to be isolated in Europe. The best way of promoting British interests in Europe, and to ensure that we are not left behind as Europe integrates, is to acquiesce wherever we are in a minority.

Labour have consistently opposed all increases in charges for prescriptions, eye tests and dental care. We recognise that this places a moral duty upon us to reduce these charges on taking office. We think the provision of free eye tests to millionaires is a priority.

New Labour believes that no parents, however gifted their child in any field, should arrogantly want for their offspring a better quality of education than other local children.

of the Tory research department, who wrote the 24,000 word alternative manifesto, *The Road to Ruin*, is also close to Dr Mawhinney and the Prime Minister.

The Road to Ruin is a parody of Labour's policy statement. *The Road to the Manifesto*, which will be published on Thursday. The Tory

document is a 64-page deconstruction of every policy statement made by Labour front-benchers since Mr Blair became leader. It has been printed in a red cover to demonstrate that Labour's instincts have not changed. The name is another product of the advertising trio.

Time will tell if they suc-

ceed. Sir Tim's recent clients include Boris Yeltsin and the Meat and Livestock Commission. The word at Central Office is that if the Tories win the general election, and the fortunes of British beef are restored, Sir Tim, who was given a knighthood by Lady Thatcher, will be given a peerage by John Major.

Eternal search for slogan that sticks

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

IF THE Tories defy the odds and win a fifth successive general election, the "New Labour, New Danger" slogan will have played its part.

If it is still being used in six months, the chances are that it will have stuck. The best election slogans are remembered long after the circumstances that inspired them.

Two of the men behind yesterday's launch, Sir Tim Bell and Maurice Saatchi, were responsible for the vivid "Labour Isn't Working" poster in Margaret Thatcher's 1979 campaign.

Harold Macmillan's aside in 1957: "Let us be frank, most of our people have never had it so good" was modified to "You've never had it so good", and was widely used, although not officially, to help

the Tories to win in 1959. In the 1960s, Labour's slogans were snappier than the Tories: "Let's go with Labour" (1964) and "You KNOW Labour Government works" (1966) may have helped to win both those elections while the Tories chose the pedestrian "Action now words".

The "double whammy" and "tax bombshell" anti-Labour slogans could have helped John Major to turn the tide towards the Tories' fourth successive win, in 1992.

In earlier days, David Lloyd-George scored with his 1918 "khaki election" slogan: "What is our task? To make Britain a fit country for heroes to live in." But caution does not pay. The Tories' "Safety first" slogan in 1929 preceded a Labour victory.

Foolish comedy stunt reveals Tory desperation

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

It is a pity that no one in Conservative Central Office has a sense of the ridiculous. Otherwise, they would have prevented Brian Mawhinney and Michael Heseltine from making fools of themselves at yesterday's launch of the party's new attack on Labour. The contrived and embarrassing event was more than just a misplaced media gimmick. It showed how desperate and confused the Tories are.

Of course, all parties now stage-manage their launches. But the attempt by Dr Mawhinney and Mr Heseltine to be funny misfired badly. They ridiculed "new" Labour's promises — "what else struck you as interesting, Michael" — before reading extracts from a laboured 64-page parody of its policies, called *The Road to Ruin*. But Dr Angry and Mr Competitiveness are hardly an ideal light comedy double act. They will not rival re-runs of the two Ronnies or Morecambe and Wise. And political journalists are not the audience for this type of cringe-making drivel.

More serious are the defects in *The Road to Ruin*. On the left-hand pages are lists of quotations from Labour spokesmen and from party documents, together with a partisan, but not entirely tendentious, commentary. That is a run-of-the-mill research exercise to highlight contradictions in Labour plans.

More dubious is the attempted parody of "New Labour's Real Manifesto" on right-hand pages. That is crass where it is not plain silly.

The Road to Ruin is full of wild exaggerations — for instance, ignoring the fact that regional assemblies for England would only be created at the end of a long process when clear public demand was demonstrated in a region via a referendum. It is also odd for the Tories to argue that "New Labour's Bill of Rights for New Britain will ensure that ultimate political power rests with unelected judges" when we are already signatories of the European Convention of Human Rights, which ensures that rulings are made by judges overseas. The real flaw is that parody works only

when it is delivered by people who are themselves trusted, and the Tories no longer are in view of their record of higher public spending and taxes.

Moreover, the Tories cannot even stick consistently to the line that Labour is now "new" in its approach. Mr Heseltine seems to hanker after the former, theoretically dropped, strategy. On BBC Radio 4's *The World at One*, he said: "A new danger for Labour is that old Labour will actually re-emerge if they were in power." What are we to believe: is Labour "old" or "new"?

Mr Blair's statement tomorrow is intended to make all previous party proposals redundant. It will seek to offer reassurance through the discarding of past ideological baggage. Will the Tories, therefore, be rewriting *The Road to Ruin* to take account of these changes? Mr Blair will try to escape from the charge that Labour can only appear radical by promising more money. Instead, the main emphasis will be on five explicit, and illustrious, pledges on transferring money within programmes. Even here Mr Blair is being cautious. There will be no time scale on when money can be switched from the assisted places scheme to reducing class sizes or from NHS bureaucracy to cuning waiting lists. And key questions on welfare reform are seen as too sensitive, not least electorally, to be tackled in opposition.

Mr Blair has, of course, offended some in his party, but he believes that Labour requires such shock treatment if the party is to change — and most people will accept in the end that it is the right thing to do. The Tories' slogan, "New Labour, New Danger", is better than their previous efforts, but it shows yet again that Mr Blair is setting the political agenda: as the Opposition's new poster will say, "New Labour — Now It's Official".

PETER RIDDELL

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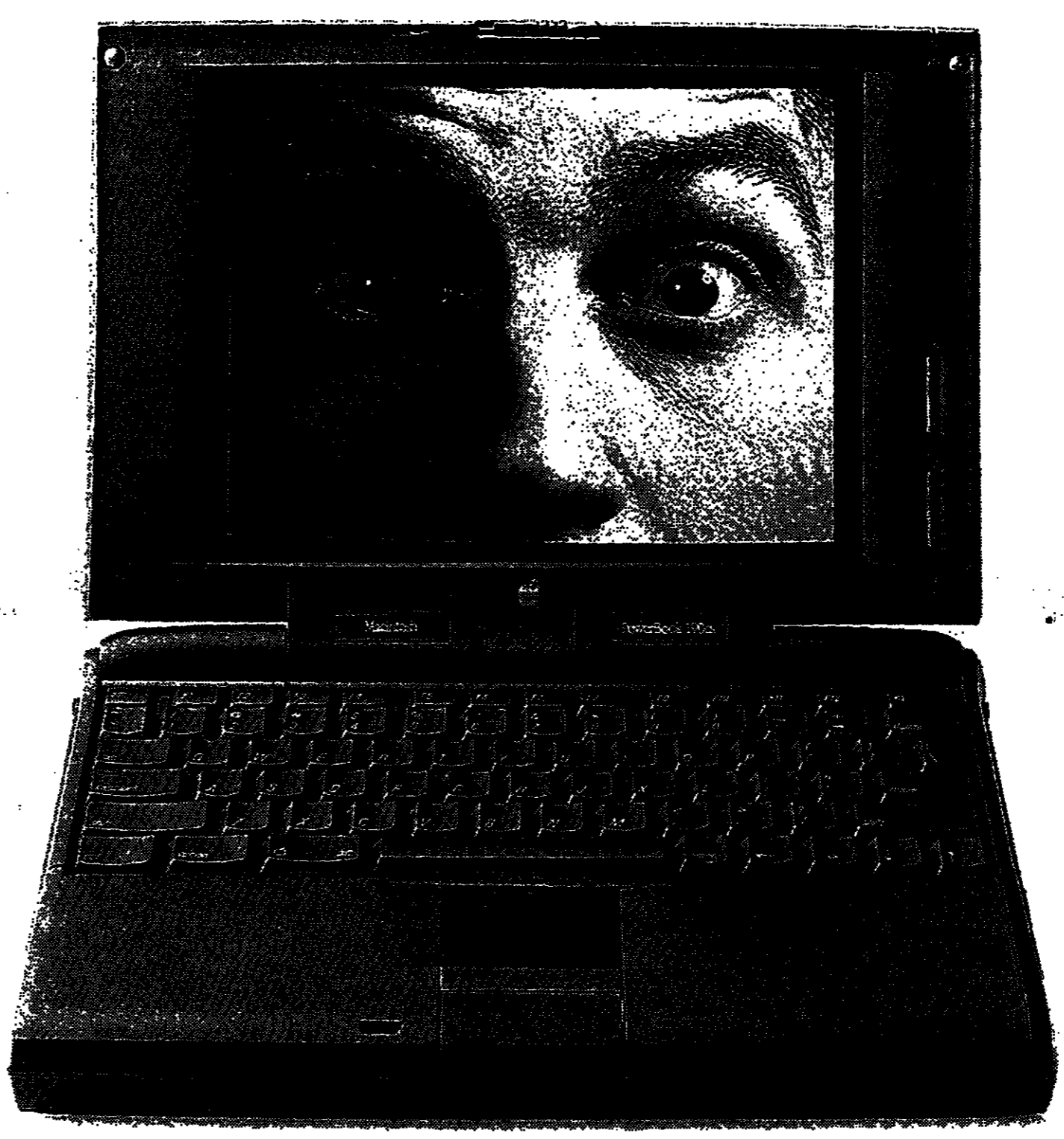
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ON POLITICS

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

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Karadzic appears on TV in defiance of Dayton accord

FROM STACY SULLIVAN IN SARAJEVO

SATISFIED that he had outmanoeuvred Carl Bildt, the international mediator, in the latest game of cat-and-mouse diplomacy, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, has begun to make television appearances lambasting the international community for trying to unseat him.

The Serb Democratic Party has voted unanimously to nominate Dr Karadzic, twice indicted for war crimes by the international tribunal in The

Hague, as its presidential candidate in Bosnian elections on September 14.

Both acts are breaches of the Dayton accords as well as subsequent agreements brokered by Mr Bildt, but they are representative of consistent Serb determination to undermine the fragile peace process.

Under the Dayton peace plan, indicted war criminals are prohibited from holding or running for public office, and under an agreement brokered

by Mr Bildt in May Dr Karadzic is prohibited from being seen or heard in public.

In spite of Dr Karadzic's disregard for the Dayton accord and for Mr Bildt, the international representative spent most of yesterday in Pale meeting the Bosnian Serb leadership. Unwilling to admit that he had again been duped by the renegade leader, Mr Bildt continued to insist that Dr Karadzic had relinquished his presidential powers, even though the Bosnian Serb leader and Biljana Plavsic, his supposed replacement, have said the indicted war criminal retains the title of President.

"We've been informed that all powers and all the functions of the presidency of the Republika Srpska have been transferred to Mrs Plavsic in accordance with the provisions of the Republika Srpska constitution," Mr Bildt said.

Dr Karadzic has not yet accepted the SDS presidential nomination, and sources close to his cabal of hardliners in Pale said the renegade leader would probably decline, owing to pressure from the international community and Belgrade. However, because the fugitive has been permitted to flout the will of the international community, a decision by him to run in the election would not come as a



William Perry, the American Defence Secretary, meets US troops serving with the international Bosnia peace force at an air base in Tazsar, Hungary, yesterday

surprise to many seasoned observers in Bosnia. In his television address, Dr Karadzic equated the international community's attempts to unseat him as part of a conspiracy directed against the Serb people as a whole.

"If they [the international community] believed in their thesis that the leadership is extreme and the people moderate... they would let elec-

tions proceed in a democratic way," Dr Karadzic said. "But they know that the people are determined to have their own country and oppose any forced mixing with others... That is why they will try everything so that the SDS does not win."

Dr Karadzic's attempt to equate his fate with the common Serb people seems to be working. The louder the international community clamours

for the resignation of the Serb leader, the more ordinary people are inclined to back him.

"Radovan Karadzic is a great defender of the Serb people," said Dusko Delipara, a 45-year-old man working at Pale's central market. "I feel like it is him and me together. I do not know why the world is putting all this pressure on Karadzic."

Nato cannot let Kremlin draw map of Europe

A silence worthy of Harold Pinter has been hanging over the West since the start of the Russian election campaign: do not talk in detail about Nato enlargement lest it frighten the Bear and unseat Boris Yeltsin.

Whoever sits in the Kremlin next week, the Nato taboo has to yield. There has been talk of a "window of opportunity" for Central Europe in the gap between the Russian and American presidential elections. President Clinton and most Nato foreign ministers in Berlin last month were agreed that it would be better to expand the alliance step by step in conversation with the Russians. Bob Dole, the Republican presidential candidate, wants an end to the ambiguity and a summit in Prague in 1998.

Nato enlargement will be the first big test of relations between the newly elected US and Russian leaders. As during the Communist era, its Ostpolitik depends on balancing the German-Russian special relationship with the needs of Central Europe. The premise of that policy — to accept Soviet hegemony over Central Europe, make an accommodation with "liberal" Communists and boost trade — remains essentially unchanged, despite the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The Clinton Administration has evolved from its initial "Russia first" policy and is now in tune with the German approach. Both President Clinton and Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, have put their chips on Mr Yeltsin.

The softer tone adopted by Yevgeni Primakov, the Russian Foreign Minister, at the Berlin Nato meeting has encouraged the West to believe that the bet was correctly placed. Mr Primakov hinted that Moscow could accept the principle of Nato enlargement, providing that no military infrastructure was moved to the Russian border.

However, Aleksandr Lebed, as Mr Yeltsin's running mate, has changed the climate. It is safe to assume

that he will speak on behalf of the military on enlargement: Nato is still the designated enemy in Russian staff college exercises.

A Kremlin driven by General Lebed pitted against an unambiguous Mr Dole would make for a shift in a relationship which many believe to be unduly weighted in Moscow's favour.

In some ways a victory by Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist, would be preferable for the Germans than a Yeltsin-Lebed win: German businessmen came out of a Bonn dinner with Mr Zyuganov two months ago persuaded that he, recognising his dependence on Western capital, would give ground on some issues.

Why does Nato enlargement pose a problem for Russia? The point of reference is, of course, not the European members of the alliance but America, which Russia secretly admires and also secretly fears.

Nato many Central Europeans are convinced by this argument. For sound historical reasons they do not like being sandwiched between Russia and Germany. For Poland, a US security guarantee has become indispensable.

Moscow has launched a campaign to persuade wavering states that their best interests lie with Russia rather than with Nato. Bulgaria, with its heavy dependence on Russian energy supplies, is vulnerable. So, it seems, is Slovakia. Enthusiasm for Nato membership in Slovakia has cooled.

The day after the Russian election, the West has thus to gear itself up for trouble with Moscow. The Russians are convinced that Nato is drawing new maps in Europe and will do almost anything to prevent it. But to pay heed to the Russians is to give Moscow the right to chart its own maps. That has been tried before — with unhappy results.

ROGER BOYES

US plans military base in Hungary

THE Clinton Administration, which has insisted that American troops will leave the former Yugoslavia at the end of the year, is reported to be planning to open a permanent training base for Nato-led troops in the region (Eve Ann Prentice and Tom Rhodes write). The move is bound to infuriate Russia and fuel Americans' fears of long-term US involvement in the region.

America is negotiating to lease a large swath of land around Pec and possibly at other sites in Hungary near the border with Serbia and Croatia. The Budapest re-

gime is reported to be delighted at the prospect, believing that the presence of US troops would smooth its path in the Partnership for Peace link with Nato.

William Perry, the American Defence Secretary, was in Budapest yesterday, holding talks with Hungarian ministers about the future of the Nato-led Implementation Force in the former Yugoslavia, ifor.

The European Union and the United Nations have felt increasingly that an international presence is needed in the former Yugoslavia far longer than December.

Dracula fans to celebrate author's stake in a world legend

FROM SEAN HILLEN IN BUCHAREST

GOTHIC literature specialists and vampirologists have unearthed plans for what is expected to be the largest celebration yet in honour of Bram Stoker, the Irish architect of Count Dracula's dark deeds.

With the centennial of the classic book's publication approaching, Dracula followers in Dublin, Whiteby, New York and, of course, Transylvania have lifted the lid on a range of activities to mark the achievements of Stoker, whose book has never been out of print, with editions in more than 50 languages, including Japanese and Gaelic.

Thanks to the co-operation of members of Dracula clubs worldwide, special literary, cultural and historical congresses and gala Dracula balls will be held, with the largest taking place in the United States. Jeanne Youngson, founder of the Count Dracula Fan Club in New York, said those invited include Christopher Lee, remembered for his film role as Dracula. Miss Youngson's club is the largest in the world, with more than 5,000 members.

In honour of the Irish writer and one-time theatre critic, a public park in Clontarf, Dublin, has just been renamed Bram Stoker Park and mystery-horror walks of the city are

being launched. Dennis McIntyre and Leslie Shepherd, leaders of the Bram Stoker International Summer School, have unveiled plans for a permanent Stoker museum and persuaded the Irish postal service to produce a commemorative stamp.

"It is really long past time that full recognition was given to the accomplishments of Stoker," said Mr McIntyre, a teacher.

To give the centennial celebration plans a suitable send-off, Vincent Hillier, an author, has offered a reward of £5,000 in gold for anyone who takes him a vampire.

Clive Leatherdale, a British author and owner of Desert Island Books, said: "It is a shame Stoker's work is

considered pop culture by the literary elite when it is so well accepted in the United States and elsewhere in literary and academic circles."

Fresh stabs at merchandising by various groups have produced a range of Dracula items, and tours are being organised to the sites of Vlad Tepes, the Romanian hero who impaled enemies on wooden stakes and, in part, inspired Stoker's character.

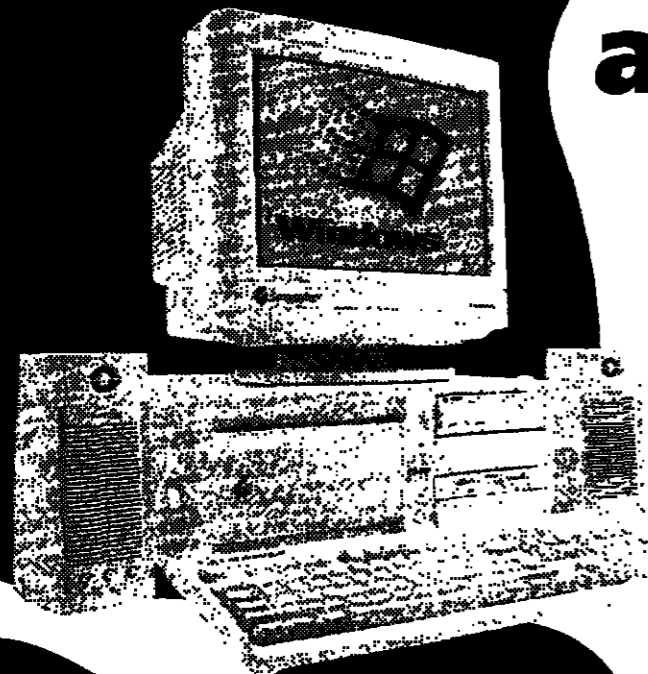
Stoker published *Dracula* in April 1897, but his wife, Florence, sold the working notes for less than £5 in 1913. Since then, directors, actors and writers have been counting their blessings and immense profits from films about the Cursed One.



Christopher Lee: invited to centennial ball in New York

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COMMENTARY

that he will speak on behalf of the military on the anniversary of the end of the war. NATO is still the dominant force in Europe, and it is not clear whether the military will be able to maintain its influence in the future.

A Kremlin spokesman in a statement said that the military would not be involved in any political activities. He said that the military was a professional organization and should remain neutral in political matters.

The statement came in response to reports that the military was planning to hold a large-scale demonstration in Moscow. The reports said that the demonstration would be held on the anniversary of the end of the war and would involve thousands of soldiers and officers.

The Kremlin spokesman said that the military was not planning to hold any such demonstration. He said that the military was a professional organization and should remain neutral in political matters.

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Ill Yeltsin needs high voter turnout to secure victory

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW



MILLIONS of voters will turn out at polls across Russia today in a run-off presidential election to decide whether the country continues on its unsteady road to reform or returns to its Communist past.

After a long, painful and expensive campaign President Yeltsin, the ailing Russian leader, appeared on the eve of the election to have consolidated a small, but solid, lead over Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party candidate.

Experts issued a warning, however, that much would depend on the turnout of voters today, a public holiday. Unpredictable factors ranging from the weather to the allure of the countryside and the extent of voter apathy could decide the margin between the two candidates.

A high turnout, above 60 per cent, seems certain to give Mr Yeltsin a comfortable victory. Anything near 50 per cent would favour Mr Zyuganov, who has a dedicated following of about one-third of the population.

Under Russia's electoral laws campaigning is forbidden on the eve of elections, a rule that suited Mr Yeltsin, who has virtually disappeared from public view for the past week because of ill-health. He

has promised, however, to emerge from his country residence this morning and to appear before the world's press to cast his ballot.

The ban on campaigning did not stop the Communists from continuing to complain that they had been subjected to "tough political censorship" by state-controlled television and the heavily pro-Yeltsin press. They maintained yesterday that Russia's largest television network had refused to broadcast a legitimate political advertisement.

As though to confirm their allegations, Moscow's newspapers kept up their anti-Zyuganov coverage, albeit in a slightly more subtle form. *Moskovsky Komsomolsky*, the mass circulation daily, chose to highlight the failure of the new communist Government in Bulgaria and ran a headline

about general election results in Mongolia. "Even the Mongols have given up communism," it said. "Are we more stupid?"

Izvestia, the respected evening newspaper, ran an interview with Patriarch Aleksii II, the leader of the Russian Orthodox Church, who has implicitly backed Mr Yeltsin throughout the campaign and this time praised the changes of the past five years.

"We are choosing not a political personality but a path for the country," he said, echoing similar remarks made by the President in his last televised address to voters on Monday.

Possibly the most important factor working in Mr Yeltsin's favour is his new ally, General Aleksandr Lebed, the former paratrooper who came third in the first round of the election and has since been appointed Russia's National Security Adviser.

The gruff former Afghan war veteran again beat the nationalist drum during a press conference yesterday, vowing to crack down on foreigners coming into Russia and to curb the spread of religious cults.

Although he did not mention the election, the latest example of his tough talking may be enough to persuade most of his 11 million voters to switch their allegiance to Mr Yeltsin.

□ **Grozny:** Chechens and Russian servicemen cast their ballots yesterday, but an explosion disrupted voting in the Chechen capital. Officials said that 18 per cent of Chechens took part, while turnout among the military was traditionally high, about 98 per cent.

The blast shattered windows in a block of flats near the main government offices in Grozny and injured several tenants, Tass said.

Voting began a day early in Chechnya because of the 19-month-old war between Russian troops and Chechen separatists. The polls will stay open today when voters elsewhere in Russia go to cast their ballots. (AP)

Poll jitters afflict the nouveau riches

By RICHARD BEESTON

IN THE leafy northern suburbs of Moscow the peace is disturbed only by the sound of builders erecting new mansions for the nouveaux riches or the roar of a foreign sports car.

While the rest of rural Russia may be turning out today in their millions to back

THE ELITE

Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party candidate for the presidency, the village of Zhukovka, Russia's answer to Beverly Hills, is guaranteed to remain true-blue Yeltsin territory.

"I have to say I am pleased with my life and my work in Russia," said Viktor, a young businessman sporting the designer sunglasses and black silk shirt favoured by the "New Russians", the country's newly minted class of entrepreneurs and bankers. "I have Yeltsin to thank for giving me a chance, so you can be sure I will be voting for him," he said.

His views were echoed among the business, political and cultural elite, whose BMWs and Range Rovers vie for space in the tiny village market, which once only sold home-grown vegetables but now offers everything from caviar to French wines.



New homes have mushroomed in areas like Zhukovka. But prices have fallen because of fears of a Communist victory

However, beneath the veneer of wealth and confidence, there is also deep-rooted concern that President Yeltsin's re-election bid may, like his health, falter at the last moment and pave the way for a return to Communist rule.

"If Zyuganov wins, for sure there will be a civil war," said Sasha, 25, stepping out of his new jeep. "He won't admit it, but he wants to drag this country back to Stalin's era. Those of us who live here will be first on his hit-list and we

won't go quietly." That feeling of uncertainty is confirmed by estate agents.

They complain that their *kottedzhi*, the multi-storey red-brick mansions which have been mushrooming around suburban Moscow, have proved harder and harder to sell since the Communist victory in December's parliamentary elections.

In Zhukovka, for instance, a three-storey home complete with sauna and tennis court, which a year ago could have fetched nearly £500,000, is

today on the market for a mere £300,000. "No one wants to commit themselves to buying. Everyone wants to rent," said Dmitri Semyenyuk, who runs the two Dmitris estate agents. "They are all scared of a Zyuganov victory. They suspect that the Communists will confiscate all second properties if they come to power again."

Judging from the heavily booked airline flights out of Moscow tomorrow, pre-election jitters have certainly sent a shiver through the community, although not everyone seems to be so fearful of the future.

At the Tsar's Hunting Lodge, Zhukovka's newest and smartest restaurant, the manager is quietly confident that President Yeltsin will win and that, even if he does not, life will go on.

"The most important thing is that democracy continues in Russia, whoever wins," said Mikhail, sipping his first espresso of the day. "Even the Communists will need restaurants."

Zyuganov falters in industrial wasteland

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN IVANOV, RUSSIA

OUTSIDE Ivanovo railway station Viktor Novikov, a former bulldozer driver, looked like one of the people Dostoyevsky called "the insulted and the injured". A white cap was set unsteadily on his head, several of his teeth were broken and blood was drying on his nose.

But, despite his meagre pension, Mr Novikov said he was voting for Boris Yeltsin in today's election. "The Communists gave me nothing," he said. "Under them I saw nothing good. I want to live quietly and freely."

Ivanovo, 150 miles northeast of Moscow, is the kind of depressed industrial city which Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist candidate, should win if he is to become the next President. Unemployment, at around

BATTLEGROUND

25 per cent, is extremely high. The town of textile mills was once called the "Manchester of Russia" and has a strong tradition of working-class dissent. The first Russian soviet, the workers' councils that became a foundation stone of the Soviet Union, was formed here in 1905.

But all the evidence indicates that Mr Zyuganov has fallen a long way short of his target and that Mr Yeltsin is heading comfortably for victory. The worries about the President's health appear to have made no impact here.

The Communist campaign is virtually invisible. There are no posters for Mr Zyuganov but banners over the main street proclaim "Russia and Yeltsin are indivisible today".

Ivanovo was in the vanguard of the campaign by General Aleksandr Lebed, the third-placed candidate in the first round of the vote on June 16. He came second here with a stunning 30 per cent of the vote, only 800 votes fewer than Mr Yeltsin.

Asked about General Lebed's surge in Ivanovo, Arkadi Romanov, editor of the local newspaper, *Rabochy Krai*, laughed: "We have a revolutionary tradition." The general's voters, he said, had come from "everywhere".

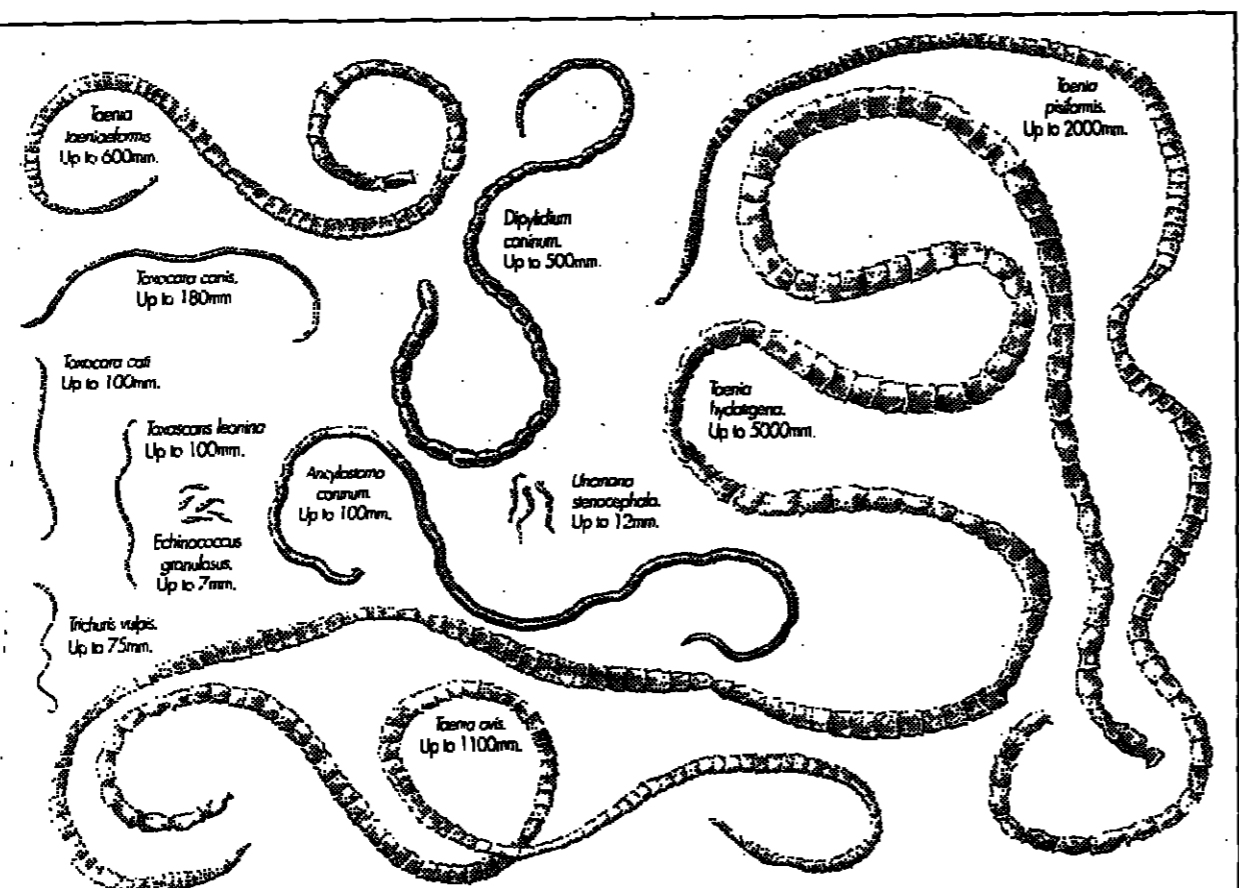
Lebed voters will not go over to the Communists. Tatyana Okunova, an unemployed woman, said she feared a return to queues and rationing under a Zyuganov presidency. "If the Communists come to power it might suddenly get worse," she said, explaining why she would be voting against both candidates.

Many more Lebed supporters were now backing Mr Yeltsin. "I thought

that Lebed would impose some order," said Galina Shabarshina, a social worker. "But now Yeltsin has taken him on to his team and taken on part of his programme, that's good."

The support for Mr Yeltsin here is all the more striking for coming against a background of economic crisis. The Krasnaya Talka textile factory, which dates back to 1750, is producing only one-sixth of its capacity. But according to Aleksandr Tokarev, the chief engineer, the worst is now over and a change of government would be disastrous. "If two or three years can pass normally, everything will start to fall into place," he said.

Konstantin, an unshaven man selling sunflower seeds, was a rare Zyuganov supporter, but even he was reconciled to a Yeltsin victory. "The people here are like sheep. They go where they're ordered," he said.



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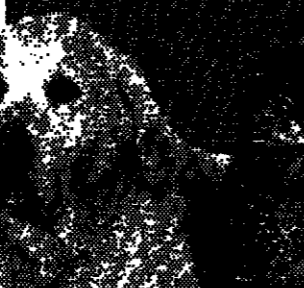
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Meet Tim.

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Check it out

Strictly for the beautiful people. Valentino's slinky designs have never required, or desired, much underwear. So what can have persuaded the Italian designer to bring out support pants? The sight of a sagging bottom bulging through one of his creations? Who knows. But we promise this is true: Valentino Intimo skin-tone knickers with support panels are now available from Selfridges and Harrods, priced £30 a pair.

A bag with bite

Despite Euro 96, Marie Helvin's party at the Halcyn last Wednesday was packed with A-list celebrities. But who was the blonde woman with the barking handbag? No one seemed to know. She came prepared to make an impression, with the ultimate needn't-have accessory — a handbag that looks like a shih-tzu dog, designed by society favourite Lulu Guinness. Whenever a guest approached, the mystery blonde broke into a high-pitched yapping. Sadly, her party-piece did not have quite the desired effect. Several party-goers, including Brian Eno, were seen heading swiftly in the opposite direction.

Join the twin-set

First the two little dress. Now the two little twin-set. Toca, worn by Helena Christensen, is extending its range. Cardies and twin-sets are soon to be available from Shop, in Soho, where the likes of Kylie and Björk get their creations.



Helena Christensen: a Toca pet

TRIED AND TESTED

Long-haul flights can wreak havoc on the legs and face, causing dehydration and discomfort. We tested five freshening sprays en route to New York.

■ CRABTREE & EVELYN, Aloe Vera Cooling Foot Spray, £5.25/75ml. Packaging: 6/10. Stylish metal can, but only works at particular angle. Scent: 6/10. Pleasant. Total: 12/20.

■ BODY SHOP Foot Spray, £2.50/100ml. Packaging: 6/10. Unfussy soft plastic bottle. Leaked slightly at top. Scent: 8/10. Refreshing. Total: 14/20.

■ RALPH LAUREN, Polo Sport Woman. Finish Coolecence Body Spray, £22.50/150ml. Available nationwide. Packaging: 7/10. Stylish bottle but poor pump action and spray leaks. Scent: 5/10. Too strong for a plane. Total: 12/20.

■ DECLEOR, Arôme Floral by Decleor, £9.30/250ml (0171-262 0403). Packaging: 8/10. Simple metal canister, but 250ml is too large for a travel bag. Scent: 6/10. Slightly too floral. Total: 14/20.

■ ESPA Herbal Spafresh Spray, £10.95/100ml. By mail order or at Spa and treatment centres (01483 454444). Packaging: 9/10. Simple, but glass bottle could be impractical. Scent: 10/10. Light unisex fragrance combining rose and orange water, lavender, peppermint and teatree oil. Total: 19/20.

Anything Fergie can do...



Even the Duchess of York now thinks she can be a professional

model. From this week *The Times* will be giving ordinary women the opportunity to model the latest clothes. Today Deborah Brett tries on some of the outfits she found in the sales

Towards the end of June, when the credit card is up to its limit, and the bank balance hovers between black and red, the summer sales are a tantalising prospect. They shimmer on the horizon, like an oasis in the desert. But, like water in the Sahara, the longer for goodies may be a mirage.

Why is it that we are so often disappointed by the sales, when only a week before the rails seemed to bulge with covetable clothes?

The first thing to bear in mind is that the sales are not designed for our benefit, but to shift all remaining stock. If that means employing a little trickery then so be it.

While people in the fashion industry often offer advice, they rarely go to the sales themselves. They buy directly from designers at the start of the season, then go to exclusive sample sales, when garments worn by models on shoots are sold off at ridiculously low prices.

However, if you're streetwise, it is possible to find great outfits at good prices. The key is to apply the same discernment as you normally would, and to think the prices through.

Sue Rowe, a young designer, is one of the few industry insiders who actually goes to the sales. She has evolved what can only be described as a strategy for tackling the shops at sale time.

"As a designer, I'm always watching what everyone else is up to," she says. "I go round the shops every fortnight, and I can tell you that a lot of shops bring out old stock for the first few days. High street chains are the worst."

"My strategy is to go at the very beginning, but not necessarily to buy then. I look for things I've seen at full price, then I see if there are lots of the particular thing I want. If there are, then I wait for the price to drop. I'm really looking for 50 per cent reductions."

"I avoid shops that cram the rails. You can't see anything properly. If I'm in a high street shop then I check the labels carefully to make sure the clothes aren't damaged."

This year, Ms Rowe is looking out for the Vivienne Westwood sale and the Liberty sale, where she hopes to buy Helmut Lang. As a rule, however, she avoids in-store concessions. "The prices are lower in designers' own shops."

The conventional advice — which Ms Rowe also gives — is to buy basics in versatile colours like black and white. But the sales are also a good time to buy something frivolous which would seem a sin at full price. But while it's not a good idea to spend lots on vogueish colours there is no point being more even more conservative than normal.

The sales are also good for luxury items that will last. Paula Hamilton rarely goes to sales, but makes one exception: "I go to the Harrods sale for men's V-neck cashmere sweaters."

Finally, don't worry if you miss the start of the sale. Reductions are often staggered.

GRACE BRADBERRY, STYLE EDITOR



DEBORAH BRET, 23, has just left Central St Martin's College of Art. She set out to buy three outfits in the sales. Two are investment buys, the third is a frivolous outfit for high summer.

The Paddy Campbell suit is a classic — but it's also incredibly well-cut and has a bit of twist to it. The dress is figure-hugging, but the slit is skilfully placed to make it wearable. Incidentally, it's a fantastic reduction.

Less dressy, the Joseph trouser suit is good for similar reasons. It looks simple — but the one button and the cut make it incredibly sexy. With a hat and scarf it would work at a wedding. It's also a great work outfit.

"The zebra shirt and trousers are really a bit of fun, but they'd see you through several summer parties."

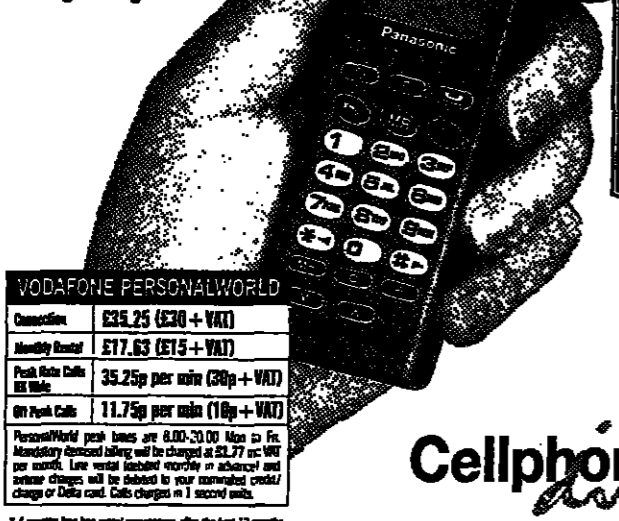
Left, ruby red single-breasted long jacket, was £375, now £189. Matching red capped-sleeve dress, was £200, now £139; both by Paddy Campbell, 8 Gee's Court, St Christopher's Place, London W1. Cream pearlised patent snafle heels by Office, were £39.99, now £25. Top, orange zebra-print velour shirt, was £39.99, now £19, by Warehouse (0171-278 3491). Black shantung capri pants by Charles Grey, were £65, now £32 at Fenwick's New Bond Street. Above, Joseph lilac wool jacket, was £235, now £164.50. Joseph lilac hipsters, were £125, now £87.50. White tank-top, was £29, now £20.30; all from Joseph, 26 Sloane Street, London SW1. White sling-backs with black hoop detail by Lorraine at Office, were £130, now £80. Hair and make-up by Claire Bayley.

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SHOES

Armando Pollini, 35 Brook St, London W1. Reductions from 30% to 60% (July 4).

Manolo Blahnik, 49-51 Old Church St, SW3. Reductions from 45% (August 2).

Patrick Cox, 8 Symons Street, SW3. Initial reductions up to 40% (July 8).

Wannabe by Patrick Cox, 129 Sloane St, SW1. Up to 40% (July 8).

Pied à Terre, 31 Old Bond St, W1 and nationwide. Reductions up to 50%.

Russell & Bromley, 24-25 New Bond St, W1 and nationwide. Reductions from 30-50% (July 12).

DEPARTMENT STORES Fenwick's branches including New Bond St, W1.

Canterbury, York, Newcastle. Reductions of up to 50%.

Designers include Nicole Farhi, Jasper Conran, English Eccentrics and Georges Rech.

Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW3 (July 10). Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW3 (starts today).

House of Fraser branches including Dickens & Jones, Regent St, London, Frasers of Glasgow, Rackhams of Birmingham and Howells of Cardiff.

Liberty, Regent St, W1. Selfridges, Oxford St, W1 (July 8).

DESIGNER SHOPS Amanda Wakeley, Fulham Rd, SW3. Reductions of 30% to 50% (starts today).

Anna Molinari, 11 Old Bond St, 30% reductions off everything.

Berry Jackson, 311 Brompton Rd, SW3. Initial reductions of 30% (starts today).

Browns, 23 South Molton St, W1. (Starts today). Reductions 30-50%.

Caroline Charles, 56/57 Beauchamp Pl, SW3. (Starts today). Some 50% reductions.

Catherine Walker, Sydney St, SW3, (July 10). Up to 50% reductions.

Emporio Armani, 191

SMART SALES

Brompton Rd, SW3. Current reductions of 30%.

Dolce & Gabbana, Sloane St, SW1. Reductions of 40%.

Joseph, Sloane St, SW1, and branches. Reductions from 30%.

Margaret Howell, 29 Beauchamp Pl, London SW3, and branches. (July 6). Also concessions in Liberty & Harvey Nichols. Reductions of 30-40%.

MaxMara, 32 Sloane St, SW1

(July 9). 153 New Bond St, W1. From 25-30%.

Nicole Farhi, Sloane St, SW1. (Starts today). Initial reductions of 25%.

Paddy Campbell, Gees Court, St Christopher's Pl, W1. (Starts today).

Paul Smith, 40-44 Floral St, WC2. (August 1). Initial reductions of 30%, plus samples at larger reductions.

Prada, Sloane St, SW1. Reductions of 30% (50% off last season's stock).

* All sales have started unless date is shown

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Rachel Campbell-Johnston on the alimony culture

Divorce, money and great expectations

It was once said that you can never really know a woman until you have met her in court. Certainly few who witnessed the coy 20-year-old Diana darting soft-focus glances at her bridegroom prince would have guessed that our national fairytale would end with a composed 35-year-old toughly negotiating the terms of her divorce.

If the Princess of Wales gets all that she is said to be holding out for — a multi-million pound settlement as well as the retention of a royal title and a home in Kensington Palace — she will prove an inspiration to all young women who feel maltreated by the powerful, wealthy men who take trophy wives.

What her predicted settlement will prove is that the discarded woman is not necessarily defenceless but can emerge stronger — or at the least much richer — than the husband she has left behind. It is a lesson whose principles are fraught with corruption.

Of course a man should be made responsible for the woman whom he made his lawful wedded wife. Provision of adequate alimony is only to be expected and never more so than in cases where children are at issue. It is lamentable that the Child Support Agency should have been allowed to fail.

The splitting of a pension, especially when a marriage has been of long duration, seems often to be only fair. A woman should not be forced to remain locked to her former husband until the time that he chooses to retire.

But in the magic circle of the rich and famous the marriage game is played for high stakes. A wedding at times appears little more than a necessary formality undertaken before securing the lucrative divorce. It is for the munificent alimony payments that the sweet, and seductive, set honey traps. Marriage has become big business. Girls who walk in beauty like the night are attracted like moths to the glitter of bachelor gold.

Bienvenida Buck set sail from our shores last week, evanescent as the bubbles in a glass of faux champagne. But she left a few cultured pearls of wisdom behind in her memoirs. "I realised I had two options," she candidly declared. "To work for years and years scrimping and saving, or else look for a shortcut. The only one I could envisage was to become a woman for a man who had already made a fortune, and to use that relationship to meet successful people."

A short while ago a pitiable, but extremely prosperous, acquaintance snuffed his sorrows onto my sleeve. He married a girl whom he first met in a nightclub — winsome, willowy and half his age. He never suspected that anything might be less than perfect until the first night of their Alpine honeymoon. He snored, suffering from the high altitude. She banished him to the bath to sleep and the next morning muttered darkly about divorce through a froth of toothpaste.

Well, Sheridan did write that "his safest in matrimony to begin with a little aversion," but things, according to his account, never got better. A year later she jetted off alone on a Caribbean holiday pleading fatigue. The phonecalls soon stopped and he heard nothing except from one of his wife's friends who called round to pick up her chinchilla fur. He consulted a lawyer, a personal friend, but without success. "I can't advise you," the lawyer said. "Your wife has been my client now for more than a year."

After the divorce finally went through, the girl was so opulently catered for that she never returned to her job as a secretary in an advertising agency. Marriage had merely been to her a less strenuous way of getting ahead than any long haul up the rungs of a career.

There is big money at stake in the divorce league. Predictions as to exactly how much are difficult to make. Part 2 of the 1973 Matrimonial Causes Act does not provide an objective, let alone a formula. Rather it specifies a list of matters to be taken into consideration.

In the 1980s, Amanda Jane Attar received capitalised periodical payments amounting to some £30,000 to help her adjust to being single after only seven weeks of marriage. Donatella Flick emerged an estimated £32 million richer from her marriage to the heir of Daimler-Benz. In cold financial terms, the Duchess of York's reputed £2 million settlement barely notches a mark on the "big divorce" scale.

Weddings are only the formality before divorce

Wealthy men fall constant prey to women on the prowl who plan their seductions like a military campaign. Lady Buck was not shy of sharing the secrets of an advanced form of warfare: never wear a dress which blends with the tablecloth — if

necessary check the shade of a restaurant's napery in advance; offer a man a drink from your champagne glass, turning it beforehand so that he samples your lipstick stain — apparently it is like a little kiss. Have a glass of sparkling juice sprinkled with perfume. This can be pressed at the perfect moment into your paramour's grasp.

Attention to details like these can earn a girl her penthouse, yacht and couture wardrobe. It is hard to see where the buck stops. Wise millionaires hire private investigators to research the credentials of prospective girlfriends. Others, with egos flattered, fall for lethal charms. More often than not the fine they pay for the joyride of matrimony is alimony. "Once a wife, always a wife," was at one time the paradigm set by

family law. Divorce was seen as a breach of contract, and settlements seen as a form of damages designed to put the promisee in the position she would have enjoyed had the contract been honoured. It is a good thing that it is now possible to abandon this. In 1984 a new Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act paved the way for the courts to look instead at reasonable needs.

The "reasonable needs" of the wealthy are often argued to be different from those of more ordinary families. Maya Flick declared that the upkeep of her Labrador required £4,000 a year, while the annual replenishment of her drinks cabinet amounted to £5,000. It was right that the court should have cavelled over this.

In a modern world which struggles towards equal opportunities for the sexes a woman should not be allowed to cling leech-like to her former husband throughout his life. Surely it would be better to see marriage as an equal partnership, not an unequal relationship in which each member jostles to grab whatever they can.

Katina Dart, who was awarded £10 million after her divorce from the tycoon who made her the tycoon who made her, battled in the appeal courts for another £100 million in payout. Yesterday it was announced that she had lost her case. Her original award was considered sufficient to keep her in the style to which she was accustomed.

But afterwards England's senior woman judge, Lady Justice Butler-Sloss, suggested that the courts may be somewhat overmodest in their awards. She hinted that at some future point this would change.

At a time when the institution of matrimony is severely threatened, when one in three marriages fail, any measures which encourage those who cynically seek profit seems ill-advised.



Diana in love — who would have guessed the doe-eyed girl would become a tough legal negotiator?

He had waited 12 gruelling months for his freedom. But when it finally came via a brief message from the Home Office, Abiodun Igbinidu, a Nigerian asylum-seeker, chose to remain in his detention cell for one more night.

Mr Igbinidu, 26, an engineering student who has spent the past year pleading his case from Campsfield Detention Centre, in Oxfordshire, could have walked out of the gates

A long march to freedom in Britain

A Nigerian asylum-seeker's victory raises doubts over new immigration laws. Carol Midgley investigates

immediately after Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, did an about-turn on Monday afternoon and granted him exceptional leave to remain in Britain. Instead, he chose to remain to attend a church service in the centre early yesterday where he gave quiet thanks for his new life.

For Mr Igbinidu's formidable army of supporters, his has been a case of crucial significance which, they say, demonstrates that genuine asylum-seekers may be slipping through the net of red tape unnoticed.

Had it not been for a series of coincidences which resulted in Douglas Hurd and four eminent physicians from Oxford University appealing to Mr Howard to reconsider the deportation of Mr Igbinidu, he would now be back in Lagos facing torture and almost certain death.

If that is so, how many other

genuine torture victims are being shipped back to Nigeria? Mr Igbinidu arrived at Heathrow airport on June 19 last year on a Balkan Airlines flight, clutching a false passport and claiming to be an activist for the Campaign for Democracy who had demonstrated against the military regime of General Abacha.

As the proprietor of a mini-supermarket and a student at the local university, he worked to help organise demonstrations and circulate leaflets. As soon as his face became known to the police the arrests



Igbinidu: free at last

began. Mr Igbinidu said he was imprisoned ten times and brutally tortured. His arms and legs were tied behind him, teargas was rubbed into his eyes and he was beaten on his back, arms and legs.

When fellow students ambushed the prison he managed to escape and was smuggled to freedom. But when he arrived in Britain, he ran into a problem — officials did not believe his story.

The Home Secretary refused him asylum and his application for leave to remain was rejected by the Immigration Service. He appealed, but in October the Special Adjudicator found against him. "I do not find the appellant a credible witness," she wrote. "In particular, I do not accept his account of having been arrested on various occasions and having been tortured."

Deportation was edging nearer, but Mr Igbinidu's support campaign was beginning to gather pace, with more than 40 MPs, and bishops and peers lending their weight. Mr Igbinidu was lucky that Mr Hurd is the constituency MP of the Rev John Searle, a visitor to Campsfield, who took up his case. Mr Hurd intervened last Christmas, so that the first deportation date was stayed.

Bill Bernister, an investigative journalist, uncovered documentation from Nigeria appearing to back up his story. Mr Bernister was in contact with Sir Richard Doll, Emeritus Professor of Medicine at Oxford and a patron of the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture, who arranged for Mr Igbinidu to be examined first by Dr Michael Hobbs, a psychiatrist and consultant psychotherapist at Oxford, and then by Christopher Bulstrode, Clinical Reader in Trauma and Orthopaedics at Oxford and consultant surgeon at the John Radcliffe Hospital. All agreed that Mr Igbinidu was telling the truth.

Baroness Williams, the former Shirley Williams, raised his case in the House of Lords to press for an amendment to the Government's new Immigration and Asylum Bill.

Crucially, the Oxford physicians went public — voicing their concern in a letter to *The Times* last month. They wrote that it had only been through a fortunate meeting between medical and journalistic interests that the evidence for this case was produced.

Unlike most the 5,825 Nigerians who came to Britain

at the home of Velda Henman, the Church Council Secretary, where Mr Igbinidu will stay for a while.

Yesterday Mr Igbinidu, a Roman Catholic, said: "They have given me my life. I would have been dead if I had been deported."

Whether Mr Igbinidu's case will alter the fate of other Nigerian asylum-seekers remains to be seen. Last year the refusal rate for them was 100 per cent.

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

Will the glossies switch to TV?

Popular magazines such as *Vogue* and *GQ* may soon be allowed to reinvent themselves for the small screen. Alexandra Frean reports

Magazine publishers, who have been lobbying hard for the right to turn their publications into television programmes, believe they are finally making headway after the Independent Television Commission's announcement that it is to review the rules banning them from transferring their print titles directly to the small screen. So could viewers soon be watching the *Vogue* show or the *What Car?* half-hour on television?

Ian Locks, of the Periodical Publishers Association, which represents almost 200 magazine publishers, believes that viewers are losing out on the rich seam of news and feature material in magazines that could easily become the source of a new concept of consumer TV programming.

For years, Locks says, the regulations have allowed TV shows to launch magazines — a strategy known as "masthead publishing" — and employed to great effect by the BBC with a range of titles from *The Clothes Show* magazine to *Gardeners' World*. Magazines, however, have never been allowed to do the same in reverse — "masthead programming" — because the ITC has always considered it a backdoor way for them to plug their titles.

Locks says: "Magazines have effectively been treated in the same way as advertisers of food or baked beans." They can sponsor a programme, but they cannot influence its content and put their brand identity on it.

"It is time," he adds, "that the ITC learnt to differentiate between magazines, which have intellectual-property content, and tins of beans. There is an enormous amount of intellectual property bound up

'It might be hard to replicate the quality of our magazines'

notably *Vogue*, *House and Garden* and *GQ* — which he believes might be transferred to the small screen, although recreating the "feel" of the magazine in a TV programme might be difficult and could tarnish the high production values of the print versions.

He explains: "Our magazines try to produce the perfect photo — a frozen moment of perfection — that might be hard to replicate on television. You certainly couldn't get the same effect by having two people sitting on a sofa and chatting. I would be interested to see what other publishers do before we do anything."

The ITC, which is to publish a consultation document on the subject this autumn, says

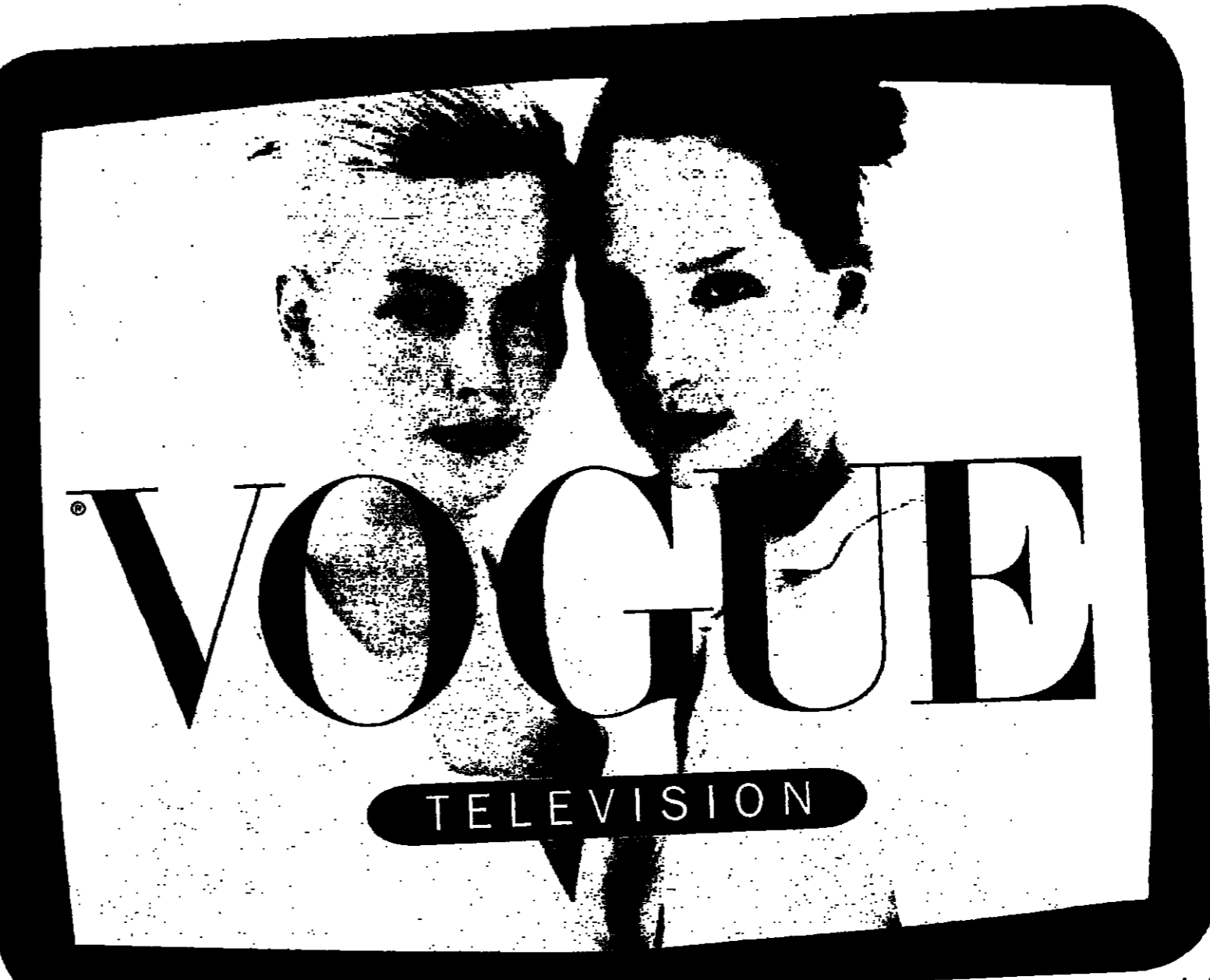
that there is already some flexibility in the existing rules. Publishers can "brand" or sponsor programmes on cable and satellite television, provided they do not influence the content or contribute any business expense. They can also license the name of their titles to programme-makers or even to whole stations, allowing their brand name to be used by TV producers.

Under such an arrangement they would have no say in the content of shows or about how their masthead or name was used.

Although there is already a demand for masthead programming among non-terrestrial channels, the mainstream commercial channels are showing tentative interest. Paul Corley, ITC's controller of network factual programming, says that so long as there were regulations to prevent overtly political titles compromising the industry's strict impartiality rules, he had no objections to the concept. "We would," he says, "be open-minded about it."

Despite the ITC's resistance to the issue until now, the advent of masthead programming is seen by most people in the media business as an inevitable result of the growing trend for convergence and consolidation in the industry. The truth is that publishing and programming companies are already gradually becoming "media neutral". Many newspapers, including this one, are already available on the Internet, as are glossy magazines such as *Tatler*, *Vogue* and *The World of Interiors*.

As Tom Moloney, chief executive of Emap's consumer magazine division in the UK, says: "In the future there will



Screen test if the Independent Television Commission agrees to relax the rules viewers may be able to tune in to *Vogue*'s "masthead programming"

just be brands, such as *Cosmopolitan*, which, if they are strong enough, will be delivered across a whole range of media from magazines, to television to books or whatever."

To many in the industry, then, masthead programming is the logical conclusion of the so-called "synergies" that are heralded with every media merger or tie-up. It is partly why companies such as Associated, publisher of the *Daily Mail*, and the Mirror Group have invested in cable television companies, and it also lies behind the merger of Lord

Hollick's television-to-financial services group MAI with United, publishers of the *Express* titles.

Some magazine publishers predict that, eventually, the demand for more masthead programming will come, not from them, but from the scores

of new digital cable and satellite stations, many of them specialising in niche markets and all of them hungry for tailor-made programming to fill their airtime.

As Terry Mansfield, managing director of the National Magazines Company, says: "With the explosion of television opportunities in this country, we deeply believe that magazines will become part of the programming possibilities. The channels will need something to show, rather than repeating the same film hundreds of times."

Aids spotlight refocuses on homosexual arena

After years of misdirected health pleas media coverage is switching from the low-risk heterosexual community, says Kyle Smith

After 14 years of Aids awareness campaigns built around cherubic youngsters and fresh-faced mothers, the real lives of gay men are finally coming into the bright lights of the media.

Activists find themselves in grudging agreement with conservatives who argue that precious funding for public-health messages has been misdirected at low-risk heterosexuals when gay men are dying in greater numbers.

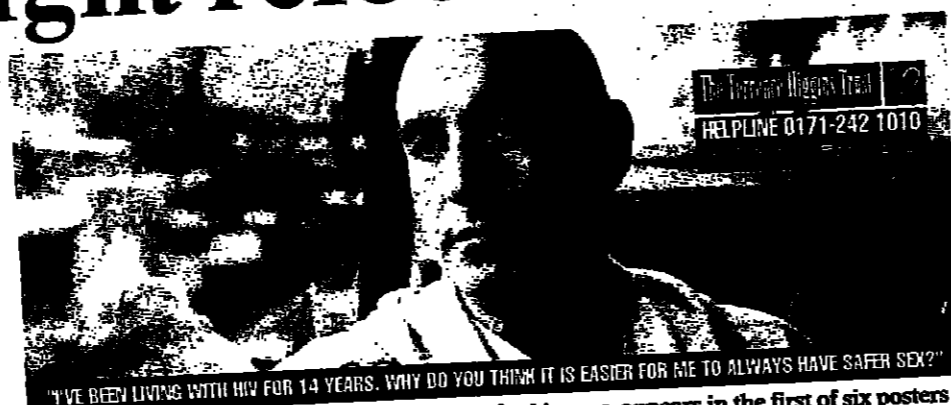
"Most of the work done by the Health Education Authority, I have to say, was probably wasted," says Simon Watney of the Red Hot Aids Charitable Trust. "The work they produced wasn't good because they didn't consult very well with the people forced to live with the disease. They relied on ad agencies whose skill in selling television sets or shampoos never struck me as particularly appropriate to a major health crisis. It is necessary to do generalist education. But the proportion of funding and effort that has gone to that has been disproportionate when Aids has had such a disproportionate impact on gay men."

Mr Watney says the proportion of public Aids awareness spending that has been targeted at gays has only just risen to 15 per cent, after lingering below 5 per cent for years.

Terry Sanderson, media editor of *Gay Times*, says: "There's no doubt that the right wing are crowing a little bit, saying we were right all along, but it could have been very different in the beginning. Nobody really knew what could have happened if there had been no education and no spending."

British film and television dealing with Aids, says the screenwriter Howard Schuman, has until recent months focused entirely on heterosexuals. "I think there are two reasons," says Mr Schuman, an American who has worked in Britain for 28 years and recently wrote the BBC drama *Nervous Energy*, about a gay couple living with Aids. "One was a slightly misguided liberal idea that Aids should not be seen as a gay illness, and the other was a wariness of unleashing any gay characters on television."

Mr Schuman says *Nervous Energy*, which was broadcast in December, was the first full-length television drama to



Jonathan Blake, who has been HIV positive for 14 years, appears in the first of six posters

deal with gay characters with Aids. Only one British feature film, *To Die For*, has dealt with gays and Aids, he says. After the success of *Nervous Energy*, several more works about gays with Aids are on the way to British television and cinema.

The refocus on the gay world has become possible only because activists have won a battle frank and open discussion of the disease and associated issues, such as condoms and the mechanics of gay sex, that were not debated in the national media 20 years ago.

"There is a lot more awareness now of what gay life is about," says Mr Sanderson.

This new direction in media coverage is the subject of a conference in Manchester this week. *Transmission 96: HIV/Aids and the Media* will be attended by scholars, activists, medical professionals, journalists and artists.

The conference comes on the heels of an announcement earlier this week by the Terrence Higgins Trust, Britain's largest Aids charity, that it was beginning the first mass-media campaign specifically

targeted at gay men. The advertisements, to be shown on London Transport, in magazines and on billboards, depict real gay men with HIV or Aids in stark black-and-white photographs. The messages are intended to reinforce safer sex habits.

Jonathan Blake, featured in the first advertisement, says: "I have been living with HIV for 14 years, so I know from personal experience that maintaining safer sex over a number of years, every time you have sex, is not easy."

Nick Partridge, chief executive of the Terrence Higgins Trust, says: "Targeting gay men in this campaign does

'Activists have won the battle for frank and open discussion'

not dismiss the importance of other groups who have been affected by HIV."

The new direction of the trust's campaign is not without its perils. Gay activists

worry that government funding will become scarcer and that gay-targeted advertising will miss some people at risk. "I think it's essential that Aids is 're-gayed', as the terminology puts it," says Mr Sanderson. "The problem is, a lot of people who need the information don't buy the gay press and don't move in gay circles, such as straight men who occasionally lapse and very young gay people."

Mr Watney says: "It is widely recognised that we are not going to get a cure by fiat. The work must be done inside the institutions rather than by the old leftist methods of standing outside shouting."

The door is closing on press freedom

PAPER ROUND
Brian MacArthur

At 76, Sir Frank Rogers, the deputy chairman of the Newspaper Publishers' Association, is one of the grand old men of Fleet Street who very quickly sniffs out any threat to the freedom of the press.

He is now trying to alert editors to a new danger — that an official appointed by the Government is trying to establish privacy legislation by the back door and without any discussion in Parliament.

If Elizabeth France, the Data Protection Registrar, succeeds in becoming Britain's Privacy Commissioner, the investigative skills of journalists will, he says, be seriously inhibited.

So far, his warning seems to be falling on deaf editorial ears, mainly because it involves a numbingly boring subject of mind-boggling complexity — which is precisely the sort of subject that requires eternal vigilance. That subject is the implementation in British law by the Home Office of a new 20-page European Commission Directive, 95/46/EC data protection.

At the centre of the controversy are Articles 8 and 9, which state: "Member states shall prohibit the processing of personal data revealing racial or ethnic origins, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership and the

processing of data concerning health or sex life.

Member states shall provide for exemptions from the provisions... for the processing of personal data carried out solely for journalistic purposes or the purpose of artistic or literary expression only if they are necessary to reconcile the right to privacy with the rules governing freedom of expression."

As citizens, the directive concerns us all, and is to be applauded. We all believe in the protection of personal data, particularly against the misuse of direct-mail address lists, credit references or data held on police computers. So why should journalists seek any special exemption?

The answer is simple: unless there are exemptions for journalists, the directive will inhibit their ability to uncover

scandal in high and low places — the exposure of City fraudsters or drug peddlars or paedophiles. When Robert Maxwell was trying to stop Tom Bower's investigation of his affairs, it was the Data Protection Act that his lawyers advised him to use.

Editors resort very easily to the eloquent defences of the freedom of the press. Yet when investigative newspaper journalism is in decline and the strength of the case for a privacy law, they sometimes ring less convincingly than they did from John Thaddeus Delane of *The Times*, C.P. Scott of the *Manchester Guardian* or Harold Evans of *The Sunday Times*.

Yet that freedom is still vital and could be endangered by EC Directive 95/46.

drafted — which at present allows no exemption for the press. All that she is doing is seeking the co-operation of the press in trying to draft exemption clauses that would leave the freedom of the press intact.

The Newspaper Publishers' Association, representing Fleet Street, and the Newspaper Society, speaking for regional newspapers, beg to differ. Newspapers have complied with the 1984 Data Protection Act, they say, but she is obsessed with privacy which is already self-regulated by the Press Complaints Commission.

Although her own paper on the EC directive says that subject access is "perhaps" a problem for "legitimate" investigations, it adds that the directive has moved permanently the goalposts of society. Individuals are now entitled to know what information is held about them and to a degree of control over that information unless good cause can be shown to the contrary.

Sir Frank has a ready answer: "It is unacceptable for a public official to consider that her role is political rather than administrative. Parliament has not vested her with any powers or duties to influence national thinking on privacy. Every journalist should vigorously and persistently challenge what the registrar is proposing."

Travel Promotion

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PROPERTY 34, 40

The designer who turned her house into a bigger home

ARTS 41-43

How Jim Jarmusch and William Blake untamed the West

SPORT 45-52

The record-breaker testing England's women to the limit

TELEVISION
AND
RADIO
Pages 50, 51

THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

LME founder acts in Tokyo

Metal broker suspends 3 in copper probe

By ROBERT MILLER in LONDON and RICHARD THOMSON in NEW YORK

A LEADING London metal broker and founder member of the London Metal Exchange has suspended three of its employees in Tokyo as part of an internal investigation related to the \$1.8 billion Sumitomo copper scandal.

Rudolf Wolf, the UK metal broker founded 130 years ago, said yesterday that the three people concerned were co-operating with the internal inquiry into dealings that the firm had with Sumitomo and its former chief copper trader, Yasuo Hamanaka.

A spokesman added: "We would never tolerate any behaviour which is not impeccable. Our total Japanese business accounted for less than four per cent of worldwide revenue which last year was £45 million."

Other major copper dealing and broking firms with offices in Japan, nearly all of whom traded with Sumitomo, declined to comment on whether staff had been suspended pending the outcome of internal investigations.

With so many criminal and civil investigations now being conducted into the Sumitomo copper scandal, involving agencies in America, Britain and Japan, fears that there was a concerted bid to rig the world's copper markets, possibly through fraudulent activities, are mounting.

In London yesterday the price of copper for delivery in three months time, the market benchmark, closed lower at \$1.895 a tonne compared with \$2.000 prior to the scandal becoming public knowledge on June 13.

In America yesterday it was announced that the US Federal Bureau of Investigation has joined the investigation into

the Sumitomo affair by requesting documents from a trader who made a complaint about the Japanese commodities giant in 1991.

The FBI has asked David Threlkeld, who is based in Vermont, to hand over telexes and faxes relating to his dealings with Sumitomo and Mr Hamanaka, the trader blamed for losses that could total \$3 billion when the full extent of his copper dealings are unravelled.

The FBI is understood to be

Delta warns of new stock writedown

DELTA, the cables and engineering group, yesterday gave warning that the drop in copper prices has forced it to write down the value of its metal stocks by £6 million.

It is the second such warning to be issued by Delta in two weeks.

On June 14, when news of the huge Sumitomo losses on copper trading was first emerging, the company said that it had written down the value of its metal stocks by £3 million.

involved as part of a grand jury investigation into Sumitomo and the role of US traders and markets in the debacle. A US copper trading firm, Global Minerals and Metals, has been subpoenaed by the US Attorney's office in Manhattan which is leading the investigation.

Mr Threlkeld complained to the London Metal Exchange in 1991 that Mr Hamanaka had asked him to supply documents detailing false trades.

The LME, however, accepted Sumitomo's explanation that the documents were required for legitimate Japanese tax reasons even though they were false.

Mr Threlkeld said: "I think more will be revealed. The more they dig around, the bigger this gets." He added that he had not been contacted by any of the British or US regulatory authorities who are investigating the case.

Meanwhile, in an attempt to end criticisms that it was doing nothing about the scandal, Sumitomo has appointed the New York office of Coopers & Lybrand, the accountants, and a New York law firm to carry out an internal investigation.

Coopers said it has been asked to look at the whole company worldwide.

In Britain the Serious Fraud Office, the Securities and Investments Board, the chief City watchdog, and the Securities and Futures Authority, the regulator for brokers and futures dealers, have begun to evaluate the information collected on their trip to Japan last week from which they returned on Sunday.

Privately those concerned in the various UK investigations into the Sumitomo copper scandal say the data they brought back from Japan is "thin".

The SIB, which interviewed Mr Hamanaka in London in 1991 over Mr Threlkeld's allegations, said last night: "This is a major and highly complex inquiry involving several jurisdictions. We shall now be pursuing our statutory inquiry through the machinery established last week and the international co-operation successfully established with Japanese and US authorities."



Graham Roper, chairman of The Berkeley Group, the housebuilder, said current sales reservations are running 20 per cent ahead of last year. Berkeley's annual pre-tax profits rose 15.3 per cent to £43.4 million. Page 29; Tempus, Page 30

Scrap Tecs, urges secret report

By PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

A CONFIDENTIAL policy paper from the Training and Enterprise Councils (Tecs) has recommended that they be scrapped and replaced with a new framework of local organisations to promote economic development.

The proposals are currently being examined by the leaders of the Tecs who will gather in Birmingham today for their annual conference.

The Government is also currently proposing a radical review of the £250 million that it spends on services to business, suggesting that their delivery is moved from the Department of Trade and Industry and is handled instead at local level by Business Links, the one-stop shop service centres run by Tecs, councils and chambers of commerce.

The Tecs' unpublished document says that the "wide range" of business bodies "risks incoherence and duplication."

Tecs and chambers are already merging, and the draft document, which will be considered by its national council in September, says: "In the longer term, it may well be that what is needed is the evolutionary development of a completely new national framework of employer-owned and led bodies."

Such organisations, it says, would be recognised by the Government as having the responsibility for local economic development and competitiveness, and for the delivery of business services, including training.

Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, told the annual chambers' conference in Birmingham yesterday that the Government "attaches great importance to making increasing use of the Business Link network to deliver services to business at local level."

No tax cuts, page 28
Future focus, page 31

BUSINESS TODAY

| | | |
|-----------------|----------|-----------|
| FT-SE 100 | 3725.7 | (+0.1) |
| Yield | 4.87% | |
| FT-SE All Share | 1962.54 | (+0.58) |
| Nikkei | 22347.57 | (-107.52) |
| New York | 5710.77 | (-19.21)* |
| Dow Jones | 5710.77 | (-19.21)* |
| S&P Composite | 5710.77 | (-19.21)* |

| | | |
|-----------------|--------|----------|
| 3-mth Interbank | 5.4% | (5.4%) |
| Life long gilt | 106.75 | (106.75) |
| Future (Sep) | | |

| | | |
|---------------|------|--------|
| Federal Funds | 5.4% | (5.4%) |
| Long Bond | 8.9% | (8.9%) |
| Yield | 8.9% | (8.9%) |

| | | |
|----------|---------|----------|
| New York | 1.5586* | (1.5591) |
| London | 1.5586* | (1.5591) |
| DM | 1.5586* | (1.5591) |
| FF | 1.5586* | (1.5591) |
| SP | 1.5586* | (1.5591) |
| Yen | 1.5586* | (1.5591) |
| \$ Index | 97.4 | (97.1) |

Tokyo close Yen 109.05

Brent 15-day (Sep) \$18.75 (\$18.65)

London close \$381.95 (\$382.05)

* denotes midday trading price

No tax cuts

Business leaders do not want to see pre-election tax cuts and urged politicians not to throw away Britain's competitive advantages for short-term electoral gain. The annual conference of the British Chambers of Commerce heard pleas from business and the banks for economic stability and the maintenance of low inflation. Political leaders, meanwhile, are making a fresh pitch at business. Page 28

Buy-back

Argyll, the supermarkets group soon to be renamed Safeway, launched a buy-back for 5 per cent of its shares yesterday within an hour of receiving approval from shareholders at its annual meeting. Markets 30; Tempus 30

KKR to back bid for Pearson titles

By ERIC REGULY

A BRITISH company backed by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, America's most powerful leveraged buyout firm, is set to bid for Westminster Press (WP), the regional newspaper group that has been put up for auction by Pearson.

Newquest Media Group, which is controlled by KKR, is thought to be among the strongest candidates for WP. Jim Brown, chairman and chief executive of Newquest, would not confirm that a bid is imminent, but said: "We are very interested in Westminster Press. We have an advantage because we would have no competition problems and no financing problems."

Analysts have valued WP as high as £350 million, though bids are expected to be substantially lower. Anthony de

Larrinaga, of Panmure Gordon, said: "I would guess that £300 million would be the top price. Pearson fattened up the margins to sell it, but they didn't attack the core problem of declining readership."

WP owns about 60 daily and weekly titles with a total circulation of 2.4 million. The larger ones include the *Evening Argus*, Brighton, and the *Northern Echo*. The group reported a trading profit of £25 million, before exceptional charges of £5.7 million, on turnover of £143 million in 1995.

Rivals may include Tony O'Reilly's Independent Newspapers, which has just raised £108 million through a rights issue, and Trinity International Holdings, which last year bought the bulk of Thomson's regional titles.

Crédit Suisse to shed 5,000 jobs

By ROBERT MILLER

UP TO 5,000 jobs will be lost as the result of a global restructuring plan announced yesterday by CS Holding, the Swiss parent company of Crédit Suisse and CS First Boston.

The thrust of the job losses, for which the Swiss bank is to set aside a provision of around £513 million, will fall in Switzerland where 3,500 staff are expected to leave. Dr Josef Ackermann, president of Credit Suisse's executive board, has resigned "due to differing views". The London office is expected to lose "a handful of jobs" mostly through natural wastage.

The Swiss group said that the newly branded Credit Suisse group would begin operations on January 1 1997.

More jobs likely as Boots grows

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

BOOTS yesterday revealed plans to spend £300 million on developing its 1,228-strong chemists chain over the next four years. Boots the Chemist opened 48 stores last year, creating 1,800 jobs, many part-time, so the opening of 40 more stores can be expected to create 1,500 jobs this year.

The company is also pushing on with pilot trials of a customer loyalty card. A second, larger trial of the Advantage card is about to be launched in about 20 stores in Devon. Steve Russell, Boots the Chemist managing director, said the first trial, at 13 stores in the Norwich area, had proved "extremely encouraging." Around 30 per cent of customers signed for the card and sales had risen over 3 per cent — more than

paying for the scheme. He said it was not certain that the scheme, which offers discounts and uses smart card technology, would be extended to the whole country. Smart cards contain computer chips and carry more data than the credit card-style loyalty cards used by most retailers.

Mr Russell said the bulk of the capital investment will go on store development and on systems. He said BTC is considering an expansion into markets abroad but gave no details. The company's aim is to open a total of 240 more small stores in the UK. So far it has opened 130 and it hopes to open a further 40 this year.

Tempus, page 30

Getty strikes it rich for Rothschild

By JON ASHWORTH

LORD (Jacob) Rothschild has made a profit of more than £10 million in just 16 months, after backing the fortunes of two young City merchant bankers. RIT Capital Partners, the investment trust of which he is chairman, cleaned up yesterday, when Getty Communications floated on the American Nasdaq exchange, valuing the company at \$154 million.

The float makes paper millionaires of the company's co-founders, Mark Getty and Jonathan Klein, both 36, who worked together at Hambros Bank before going into business together three years ago. Their share

stakes are jointly worth \$125 million. Tony Stone, founder of Tony Stone Images, one of the world's leading stock photography agencies, holds shares worth \$11 million.

RIT put up £3.6 million in March 1995 to help Getty Communications to finance the purchase of Tony Stone Images. By the time of the Nasdaq float, the investment had swollen to £14.5 million. Other winners include Hambros Bank, which sees a £2 million investment treble to £6.5 million. RIT and Hambros have taken profits by reducing their holdings in Getty, but retain stakes in the company.

Mr Getty, son of J. Paul Getty II, the

philanthropist, had been seeking a business focus for the Getty family, which sold its oil interests to Texaco in the early 1980s for \$1.1 billion. He and Mr Klein decided the future lay in visual content, which includes contemporary and archival still and moving imagery.

The pair have made three acquisitions so far: Tony Stone Images; The Hulton Deutsch Collection, now Hulton Getty; and Fabulous Footage, a Toronto stock footage company. Further acquisitions are planned in archival films and photo-journalism.

The Nasdaq move sees a third of Getty Communications floated off in American Depository Shares, raising

\$50 million. After profit-taking by RIT and Hambros, the company is left with \$32 million before expenses, to repay acquisition-related debt of about \$20 million. After expenses, Getty will have \$8 million free for further investment. Neither Mr Klein nor Mr Getty have sold any shares.

Mr Klein, chief executive of Getty, said: "We believe that Getty Communications is ideally placed to exploit the demand for visual content. The funds raised by the offering should enable us to enhance and expand our product range." America accounts for about 43 per cent of the company's sales. Getty Communications remains based in London.

RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1996

The Board of Directors of Compagnie Financière Richemont AG announces the following results for the year ended 31 March 1996.

| | 1996 | 1995 | |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|---------|
| Net Sales Revenue | £ 4306.9 m | £ 3852.1 m | + 11.8% |
| Operating Profit | £ 798.9 m | £ 688.0 m | + 16.1% |
| Profit Attributable to Unitholders | £ 316.1 m | £ 261.9 m | + 20.7% |
| Earnings per Unit | £ 55.05 | £ 45.61 | + 20.7% |
| Dividend per Unit | £ 8.00 | £ 7.00 | + 14.3% |

The financial highlights shown above exclude the effects of exceptional items and goodwill amortisation from the results for both years.

- The Group's operating profit was 16.1% above the previous year at £798.9 million.
- Operating profit from Richemont's tobacco interests, which are held through Rothmans International, increased by 21.3% to £605.7 million.
- Vendôme Luxury Group, the holding company for the Group's luxury goods interests, reported an increase of 12.3% in operating profit to £249.7 million.
- Richemont's share of operating losses from its media interests, which are held through Nethold BV, increased by £8.2 million to £46.3 million.

Copies of the full results announcement and the annual report may be obtained from: Compagnie Financière Richemont AG, Registraar 2 6300 Zug, Switzerland. Telephone: +41 (0)41 710 33 22. Telefax: +41 (0)41 711 71 38.

Richemont International Limited, 15 Hill Street, London W1X 7PB. Telephone: +44 (0)171 499 2539. Telefax: +44 (0)171 491 0524.

□ Vital warnings that were disregarded □ Facing up to the Ofgas onslaught □ 'Independent' directors who may not be

DIY approach to Wickes accounts

□ HAD a lowly buying clerk not been sacked from the Dutch office of Wickes a couple of weeks ago, the DIY chain would still be one of the stock market's best regarded performers, admired for its ability to defy gravity in a disastrous area of retail.

It is, after all, only weeks since WH Smith handed over £63.5 million to get out of the DIY business. There is a strong temptation to blame City analysts, who are supposed to be able to spot these disasters coming. Unfair, because it is now emerging that the analysts did just that, and were given the brush-off. Specifically, they asked about the accounting treatment of various payments by suppliers to the company. The reply came that these were treated "conservatively". The truth is clearly the opposite.

As you browse the shelves at your local supermarket, such big retailers might seem the purest form of free market. Fierce rivalry on the high street means that only the best goods, and the most competitively priced, fight their way onto the shelves. Surely? Quite wrong. Retailing is a jungle, and all manner of underhand tricks and near-bribes are used to push the suppliers' product onto those shelves. The problem comes in knowing how to take those payments into profits.

Wickes seems to have taken the least conservative route while claiming the opposite, and this was widely suspected. Consider this quotation from an unnamed DIY goods manufacturer in *DIY Week*. "I wonder if Wickes shareholders are aware," he writes, "that part of this year's profit is a contribution for sales anticipated through to 1996." The date is November 1994.

There is not much an analyst can do if he is being misled, deliberately or because management themselves are kept in the dark, save to move the shares' stock market rating down a few notches to take into account the uncertainty. Take Polly Peck. No one could work out how the margins being boasted of were being achieved; this was because they were not.

Two questions now are central. We know the mis-statement of profits goes back as far as 1990. Why, given the suspicions referred to above, was it not picked up by the then finance director, Trefor Llewellyn, now at Caradon, or the auditors, Arthur Andersen? Mr Llewellyn is not answering questions directly, but Caradon's public relations firm says on his behalf that he had no suspicions up to the end of 1994. He presumably checked out the analysts' doubts and found they were unfounded. He was wrong. Why?

The second is the position of suppliers. Wickes has about 200 of these, and as many as 60 are under investigation. Did they collude in the cover-up, in return for their products being displayed on Wickes's shelves?

This financial disaster goes beyond the affairs of a small and spectacularly successful retail chain, because the practices it used are so common throughout the retail trade. It is about time other retailers answered some searching questions.

Gas needs to fight on two fronts

□ SHARES in British Gas have scarcely recovered since they were hit by neo-socialist twin price cut proposals from Ofgas. At 180p, they trade about 14 per cent lower in real terms than when shares were first sold to the



public a decade ago. No wonder the board complains that it is under "unprecedented regulatory pressure". Yesterday's formal response was to Ofgas plans for British Gas Trading, which supplies gas to households. They last into the next century, long after the company has lost its monopoly and reflect the regulator's strategy for attacking the enemy.

Ofgas plans to cut profits on existing supply business with a price formula that assumes costs are reduced faster than the Monopolies and Mergers Commission thought was sensible in 1994. At the same time, Ofgas wants to hog-tie the charging structure to make it as difficult as possible for Gas to resist loss of

market to new competitors.

The combination of cutting profits on existing sales and ensuring that sales will fall seems to leave this child of the coming demerged British Gas with nowhere to go but down. TransCo, the infrastructure monopoly that will form the bones of the other wing, faces a similar prospect with a vast projected cut in profit and tariffs designed to stop it benefiting from increased gas sales.

This holds out the prospect of a continuing downward spiral of costs, customer satisfaction, employee and management morale and returns to shareholders. To stem or reverse this, British Gas has little option but to fight all the way, certainly to the MMC, on supply as well as the more important TransCo front.

Assuming that tactic has only limited success, the board needs to concentrate on working for shareholders rather than itself. Since investors will own two businesses with low returns, high risks and little upside, the top priority is to get as much of their money out as possible. For TransCo that means

replacing equity with loans. The trading business should end up as part of a multi-utility such as the generator PowerGen.

Raising questions in the boardroom

□ COMPLYING with the letter of the Cadbury and Greenbury committee recommendations is all very well. But according to Manifest, the agency set up to promote shareholder activism by institutional investors, much of British industry is merely paying lip service to current ideas of good corporate governance.

Manifest has found that many of the "independent" directors on the boards of corporate Britain are not quite as independent as they seem. There are a whole raft of former directors, or partners of the company's lawyers, or delegates from its accountants or the merchant bank or even the odd family retainer turning up as non-executives. Whether these people really question the chief executive on anything but the timing of lunch has to be open to debate.

Pennington's favourite example is the property group Great Portland Estates. Norman Ford joined the board as an independent director in 1991. He just happened to have been company secretary since the company was formed in 1957. When he started the group's finance director, John Whiteley, was not yet born.

Mr Ford sits on both the audit and remuneration committees, where he polices Richard Peskin, the group's chairman and managing director (no splitting of roles here). The two have shared a boardroom since 1968.

Good corporate governance is designed to ensure companies perform well. Great Portland shares have, as it happens, underperformed the market by a third over the past two years.

Room with a phew

□ EVER wondered why you always end up in the room overlooking the municipal waste tip on business trips? A survey from a hotels group has uncovered the hidden hand that controls the £2.5 billion business travel market. Three out of four bosses rely entirely on their secretaries for travel arrangements. And your secretary, as those polled admitted, is being bribed by travel firms with treats such as tickets to Wimbledon and the Chelsea Flower Show.

Berkeley gives election warning

By PAUL DURMAN

BERKELEY GROUP, one of Britain's best-regarded house-builders, yesterday said that the uncertainty caused by the forthcoming general election could cost the building industry the equivalent of two months' sales.

With turnover running at about £30 million a month, Berkeley is preparing for the possible loss of £60 million of sales. Tony Pidgley, managing director, said: "There will be a two-month period when a large percentage of the (house-buying) public will sit on their hands."

But Berkeley expects any hiatus in the housing market recovery to be short-lived. Roger Lewis, finance director, said a temporary fall in sales could throw up huge opportunities to buy land cheaply, as other house-builders scale back their purchases. Berkeley is well-placed to take advantage since it has no borrowings and, after its January rights issue, net cash of £35.6 million.

Berkeley, which mainly builds expensive "executive" homes, was reporting a 15.3 per cent rise in annual pre-tax profits to £43.4 million. Sales for the year to April 30 were 18 per cent ahead at £334 million. Earnings rose by 10.8 per cent

to 34.8p a share. The number of properties sold increased from 1,411 to 1,560, with the average price rising from £190,000 to £208,000.

This year has also begun well, with reservations 20 per cent ahead of last year.

Mr Pidgley said he did not believe a Labour Government would be bad for the housing market, at least not initially. He said, judging from the opinion polls, "there will be a certain amount of 'feel-good' factor which does not seem to be there with the Tories".

While Berkeley is seeing solid rises in house prices, particularly in London, the company sets much more store by building the right properties with features people want. Mr Pidgley said: "If it's in the right location and it's what people want, people will pay for it. It's not price sensitive."

Among the standard features are double-glazing, smoke alarms, hi-fi wiring and cast iron baths. Security features are also increasingly important.

Berkeley is paying a final dividend of 6.2p, increasing the total payout by 9.6 per cent to 8.5p a share.

Times, page 30

Profits hit new heights at Atkins

By FRASER NELSON

WS ATKINS, the international engineering group set for a £200 million flotation this month, returned record profits of £22 million before tax and exceptional items for the year to March 31, a 20 per cent rise.

The group, which issued its pathfinder prospectus yesterday, lifted sales 20 per cent to £236 million, helped by a six-week contribution of £4.4 million from Faithful & Gould, the construction consultants, bought in February for £21 million. The acquisition of Cadac and PowerTrack, the railway infrastructure groups, led to £3.5 million in restructuring expenses.

Atkins first planned to float in 1990, but pulled out six days before the placing when Iraq invaded Kuwait. It was then expected to be valued at £90 million, a quarter of what it is expected to reach now. Dealings are set to start on July 25.

Marston's in branded pubs drive

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

MARSTON, Thompson & Evershed, the pubs and brewing company, said yesterday that it would be looking to build up a series of branded pub chains.

Marston's made its first foray into that end of the market when it bought the Pitcher and Piano chain last week for £20 million. It hopes to double the number of Pitcher outlets to 14 by the end of this year and aims to expand its branded interests further, either through acquisition or by converting houses in its existing estate.

Marston's unveiled an 11 per cent rise in full-year pre-tax profits to £27 million. Beer volumes increased by 3.4 per cent with a 14 per cent rise in off-trade sales. Retail division profits rose 25 per cent boosted by strong food sales. The total dividend rises 11 per cent to 7.3p. An unchanged final of 4.8p is payable on August 10.

Inspirations slides

By PAUL DURMAN

INSPIRATIONS, the tour operator, yesterday unveiled plans to raise £12.1 million and buy a skiing holidays firm. The company also announced a sharp increase in losses to £13.2 million before tax, from £3.6 million, for the half-year to the end of March.

The fund raising, via a rights issue of convertible preference shares, will enable Inspirations to pay up to £1.75 million for Skiers World, a

Cardiff firm that provides holidays to the US and Canada for schools. The new money will also enable the company to reduce the cost of its £18 million bonding requirement. First-half sales rose 95 per cent to £132.1 million. This year's booking levels are 5 per cent ahead of last year's and holiday prices are also higher. The interim dividend is up 11.4 per cent to 0.78p a share. The shares fell 4p to 125p.

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Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun

COMMODITIES

LONDON FINALS

CIAL FUTURES

Marston's is relying on its belated entry into the branded pub market and the recent launch of Marston's Smoothbrew.

named Safeway, is trying very hard already to live up to its new name.

Shortly after receiving annual meeting approval from

er, believe that it will take a more imaginative corporate strategy at Safeway to help it catch up with the food retail sector leaders.

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|---------------|-----|-------------------|-----|----------------|-----|-----|
| Heavy Chem | 34% | ML Industries | 17% | Warner-Lambert | 50% | 55% |
| Pharm Comp | 50% | Asahi Engrg | 10% | Fuji Photo | 24% | 24% |
| Chemical | 41% | Yamashiro | 44% | Westinghouse | 14% | 18% |
| In Jones | 41% | Asahi, Mann | 88% | Westvaco | 52% | 51% |
| Auto | 28% | Nichols State Par | 49% | Whitcomb | 32% | 31% |
| Auto Power | 50% | Sumitomo Corp | 49% | Whitman | 28% | 24% |
| It & Software | 62% | Hyundai Corp | 34% | Winn Dixie | 35% | 30% |
| Food | 81% | Occidental Pet | 47% | Wm-Worth | 22% | 22% |
| Textile | 51% | Onix Electron | 23% | Wingco (Wm) Jr | 51% | 51% |

| | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Jul | 67 | 13 | 53 | 52 | 90 | 136 | | | | | | |
| Aug | 22 | 34 | 26 | 78 | 109 | 149 | | | | | | |
| Sep | 20 | 54 | 173 | 94 | 94 | 104 | | | | | | |
| Oct | 52 | 60 | 97 | 113 | 120 | 123 | | | | | | |
| Nov | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dec | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Jul 21, 1940 Time 4:40:00 Call 147:20
 Oct 26:20 FTS-E Call: 4:30 Post 4:20
 *underlying security price.

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|-----------------|---------------|
| Stockholm | 10,337-10,438 |
| Tokyo | 170,93-171,49 |
| Vienna | 16,676-16,736 |
| Zurich | 1,9452-1,9503 |

Source: *Exel*

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| 0000-01.000 | 1'e-1',pr | 4'e-3',pr |
| 0.417-10.438 | 1'e-2',ds | 1'e-2',ds |
| 1.129-171.40 | 1'e-1',pr | 2'e-2',pr |
| 1.715-16.720 | 1'e-1',pr | 1'e-1',pr |
| 0.977-1.9503 | 1'e-1',pr | 1'e-1',pr |

Premium + pr Discount - ds

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| Ingfisher | 1,300 | Oro News | 433 |
| ASMO | 2,300 | Vodafone | 16,900 |
| adbroke | 531 | Whitbread | 1,900 |
| and Secs | 2,600 | Wlms Hld | 799 |
| regul & Gn | 1,100 | Walsley | 1,700 |
| | 476 | Zeneca | 1,800 |

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| James | 41% | 41% | Northon, Starn |
| James | 24% | 29% | North State Pol |
| Mike Power | 50% | 51% | Northwest Corp |
| n & Broadway | 62% | 62% | Nynex Corp |
| Pom | 81% | 82% | Occidental Pet |
| Simman Chem | 61% | 61% | Ohio Edison |
| Sumner Kodak | 77 | 77 | Oracle |

| | | | |
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| 8% | Wever-Bacuter | 42% | 44% |
| 9% | Whitman | 52% | 51 |
| 10% | Whitman | 24% | 24% |
| 11% | Wing Dixie | 35% | 36 |
| 12% | Woods-orth | 22% | 22% |
| 13% | Winckles (Wm) Jr | 51% | 51 |
| 14% | Vera | 57% | 56% |
| 15% | Yellow Corp | 13% | 13% |

THE
TIMES
CITY
DIARY
Grants
a double
Museum
Water
Lloyd's

THE TIMES AND TRUST INFORMATION SERVICES

[illegible]

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

Equities mark time

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

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| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

BANKS

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| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

ELECTRICITY

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

BUILDING MATERIALS

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

ENGINEERING

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

CHEMICALS

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

DISTRIBUTORS

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

HEALTHCARE

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| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

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| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

INSURANCE

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

LEISURE & HOTELS

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

MINING

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

OIL & GAS

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

MEDIA

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

OTHER FINANCIAL

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

PHARMACEUTICALS

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

PRINTING & PAPER

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

PROPERTY

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

TEXTILES & APPAREL

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

TRANSPORT

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

RETAILERS, FOOD

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

RETAILERS, GENERAL

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |

WATER

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|------|------|---------|-------|--------|-------|----|
| 1996 | Low | Company | Price | Change | Yield | PE |
| 1995 | High | | | | | |



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1996 Low Company Price Change Yield PE

1995 High

1996 Low Company Price Change Yield PE

1995 High

1996 Low Company Price Change Yield PE

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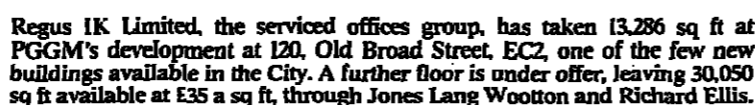
1995 High

1996 Low Company Price Change Yield PE

1995 High

Christopher Warman on increasing confidence in property investment

"Expansion of capacity, rather than increasing efficiency, is now the most important factor motivating companies' property investment plans. This is encouraging as it suggests that companies are starting to equip themselves for an upturn."



Michael Corbett, Grimley's managing partner, emphasised that demand from occupiers, especially from the corporate sector, was more serious than a year ago. "This is primarily for better quality property in the right business locations, but at an affordable price, which tends to work against the traditional speculative-built properties."

In office property, central London is invariably the barometer of

Construction in the West End, by contrast, fell by 2.4 per cent to 1.8 million sq ft, and starts in the first quarter, at 162,000 sq ft in four schemes, showed a marked drop on the previous quarter's high mark of 958,000 sq ft.

building, completed in March 1994, was prelet to Sony which has exercised its fixed price option to buy.

The building has won a number of awards, including the B1 (mixed) office develop-

LAP is a joint venture between London & Easter Properties Ltd and ING Real Estate International BV, the property development and investment subsidiary of the Dutch-based ING Group.

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FILM

Native Indian culture and Blake poems? It could only be a movie by Jim Jarmusch



VISUAL ART 1

Back to basics: the Royal Academy Schools return to an emphasis on traditional drawing skills

THE TIMES ARTS



VISUAL ART 2

...and the Royal Academy is also introducing children to the first skills of life-drawing



TOMORROW

Has Tom Cruise pumped new life into *Mission: Impossible*? Read Geoff Brown's verdict

Gone way out, far-out West

Michael Church on how William Blake gave Jim Jarmusch a hand with his new film

Funny how William Blake keeps forcing his way into the general consciousness. Each generation makes its discovery. There was a vogue in the Twenties, another with the Beat poets in the Fifties, and another with the psychedelic rockers of the Seventies. That he should take centre-stage in Jim Jarmusch's film *Dead Man* — where a Wild West "William Blake", aka Johnny Depp, meets an Indian who delivers aphorisms from *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell* — seems merely par for the course.

But Blake was not Jarmusch's starting point. In *Dead Man* a *Candide*-like Depp forsakes turn-of-the-century New York for a frontier life, and then crosses that frontier to live, and die, among Native Americans. The starting point was Jarmusch's lifelong fascination with Indian culture. Blake came into the frame while Jarmusch was, as he thought, taking time off from his script.

"To clear my head, I thought I'd better read something totally unrelated, and Blake seemed perfect," Jarmusch says. "But I immediately found these incredible connections to the stuff I'd just been writing. The eagle never lost so much time as when he submitted to learn from the crow. I thought: am I just tired, or am I hallucinating? Then all the resonance of Blake flooded my mind. I

opened the door, and in walked this damn visionary poet."

A little while later, someone even more fundamental walked in. Jarmusch had started life as a singer with a psychedelic rock group, and always makes music the cornerstone of his films. *Mystery Train*, for example, is permeated not only by the sound of its ghostly hero Elvis Presley,

but also by country music. Music was the inspiration for the film, and it infuses every frame.

As he worked on the script for *Dead Man*, Jarmusch gradually realised whom he wanted to score it. "I didn't want banjo music. I didn't want period stuff. I wanted the music to underscore the psychedelic aspects of the story, which meant someone like Neil Young, with that rough, soaring guitar, which picks you up and transports you like some Aztec bird."

"He's not a virtuoso, but he can make his guitar sound like anything he wants: he

speaks very directly, very emotionally through it. But then I thought, he's a rock star and I don't know him. I'll never get him to do it."

He did get him, but the process was suitably bizarre. Young and his group Crazy Horse happened to be playing an Indian benefit not far from where *Dead Man* was shooting in Arizona; Jarmusch and his crew went to listen.

Disregarding warnings that Young was in no mood to be pestered, Jarmusch went backstage to plead his case, and was told he could send a rough-cut which might — or might not — draw a response. He sent one; there was a dismayingly long silence; then the capricious star suddenly rang to say yes. There would be no need for a backing group. Young would do the whole thing himself.

"Neil simply asked me for a map of where I wanted music in the film. We set him up in a San Francisco warehouse with his guitars, a pump organ, and a detuned piano, and let him react to the screen the way musicians used to with silent movies. The only thing he insisted on was that the film should be on account he was stopped." They did the whole thing straight through three times, and spliced the best takes together.

The resulting work is by any standards extraordinary. Initially we see, in close-up, locomotive pistons in a swirl of steam; what we hear is the jagged clangour of an electric



Film director Jim Jarmusch: "My job is to stay on the periphery of things. If everyone liked my work, I'd reconsider my choice of career"

guitar. Depp is being borne off to the West on a train — and on the wings of music. At the beginning of the film the guitar is only heard in brief bursts — like a door being opened and closed — but by the end its plaintive sound seems to fill the screen.

American critics dismissing *Dead Man* as a cinematic sleeping pill have been

drowned out by admirers hailing it as a tragicomic masterpiece. "My job is to stay on the periphery of things," Jarmusch says. "If everyone liked my work, I'd reconsider my choice of career."

But every film must have its soundtrack CD, and *Dead Man* is no exception. Jarmusch's contempt for mer-

chandising spin-offs — "music bought and sold by the yard" — was compounded by Young's determination to make this first release on his new record label sound as different as possible from a conventional album. So he created a free-associative collage in which his guitar merged with bits of dialogue taken from an early tape of

the film (and excised later), plus Depp reading Blake's poem, *I went to the garden of love* (not in the film), plus the roar of the sea (ditto), plus the sound of Young's 1949 Lincoln revving up (and this for a film in which everyone rides horses).

"When I first heard it, I was shocked," says Jarmusch. "But Neil said, 'Just forget

your film, and listen', so I did. And then I thought it was amazing. But I got him back with the video he commissioned from me to launch the record. I used the one piece of music from the film which he had not included on his record. Quits."

● *Dead Man* opens on Friday. The soundtrack is available on Vapor Records

VISUAL ART: Isabel Carlisle and (below right) Hilary Finch paint two pictures of the Royal Academy's new, and old, passion

Drawn to a neglected essential

Things are buzzing at the Royal Academy Schools, the art school at the back of the Royal Academy. It's the end of term, and first and second-year students have moved out of the 19th-century Smirke studios to allow the third years to hang, install or arrange their work for the Final Year Show. At the same time two enterprising students have been selling tickets for two debates they have organised on contemporary art, featuring international artists.

The Royal Academy Schools is the oldest art school in the country. Founded by George III in 1768, for many years this "well-regulated School or Academy of Design, for the use of the students in the Arts", plus the annual exhibition that we now know as the Summer Exhibition, alone constituted the Royal Academy.

Among past students were Turner, Blake, Constable, Millais and Rossetti and, unlike other art schools that through their plaster casts of antique statues out in the 1960s (and are now regretting it) the Academy Schools has a whole corridor of them. It all adds up to a weight of achievement and tradition that could be seen as suffocating by art students today.

Last October Leonard McComb was the Royal Academician elected Keeper of the RA Schools. Although he has taught at the Schools part-time for some years, this is the end of his first year as head of teaching. Last November he presided over the reopening of the Schools after a programme of internal works that included the restoration of the historic life-drawing room, with its two semicircular wooden benches and edges, and the creation of a new sculpture yard.

McComb's own training included a postgraduate course at the Slade School of Art in the 1950s. "Men and women students had separate life rooms then and there was a strong emphasis on teaching people to draw," he says. "In the 1960s photography replaced drawing and now there is a whole generation of people who don't know how to draw."

The teaching at the Academy Schools has become more formal since McComb arrived. All Royal Academy students of painting are now expected to study anatomy,



Back to basics: Leonard McComb, Keeper of the Royal Academy Schools, in the life class

and drawing from the model, in their first year.

McComb is quick to point out, though, that this is not narrow traditionalism. "There is no system or house style, but in the first year we provide a background of study from which each student can develop," he says.

Life drawing is central to this. "Because the drawing process is one of selection and decision-making, students engaged in drawing can subsequently make all sorts of practical art and design decisions," McComb says.

The students, both of painting and of sculpture, are all postgraduates. They are well aware of the differences between the various London art schools — conceptual artists don't apply to the academy. Those who want to learn to paint or sculpt, with some printmaking on the side, do.

Mark Reynolds, a first-year, says: "I love having the life room there if I want to go and use it. Also it's great having the Cork Street galleries and the White Cube gallery [which shows the latest in contemporary art] just around the corner."

Others talk about how supportive their fellow students are and how they are in and out of each others' studios the whole time. The Royal Academy's own exhibitions are used for teaching: when the Poussin

exhibition was on, students were in the galleries from 6am making copies. With only 48 painting students and 10 sculpture students, the place has the atmosphere of a large family. The porter, John Nunn, also teaches photography.

When the Royal Academy was founded it was intended that the proceeds from the annual exhibition should fund the art school and pay the tuition fees of the students. This arrangement came to an end in 1978 and now the academy simply gives the Schools a lump sum — about £150,000 this year.

The fees are £6,400 a year, but almost all students have the costs met by the Department for Education and private bursaries. Time Out, the listings magazine, joined a long list of sponsors when it announced last week that it was giving a scholarship of £6,500 a year for three years. There are also travel scholarships and the Schools give students £110 per term for materials.

McComb approves of the low-key approach that the Academy Schools take towards marketing their students in an outside world ruled by the vagaries of artistic fashion. Having taught at Goldsmiths, the school that produced, among other lum-

inaries, the 1995 Turner Prize-winner, Damien Hirst, McComb is well aware of the pressure on other schools to emulate Goldsmiths' success in enabling students to catapult their works straight from degree shows into commercial galleries.

"Unlike Goldsmiths, which trains students to sell their personality and intentions, we train them to work better," he says. "Some students mature over a long period of time and don't want to have an exhibition straight away."

At the academy, education is directed towards the particular needs of each student. Because we encourage as many points of view as possible the potential for development is limitless. I am all for self-expression, but you need an input of visual experiences too."

Nina Murdoch, a third-year with several gallery exhibitions and commissions to her name, feels that "Goldsmiths' gears you up to be a celebrity. Here you learn as you go along and by picking the tutors' brains." Murdoch sold about £10,000 worth of her art to a gallery the day before the Final Year Show opened to the public.

● The Royal Academy Schools Final Year Show (supported by The Royal Bank of Scotland, Burlington House, London W1 0171-4397438), until July 12

The Royal Academy's regard for life-drawing as the very heart of a visual arts education is being carried throughout the country in a network of all-day workshops in primary and secondary schools.

The project started as a small pilot scheme in response to a demand from teachers for life-drawing workshops in relation to the Henry Moore exhibition of 1988: now 18,000 children and teachers take part.

At Hunter's Hall Junior School in Dagenham, vast sheets of gleaming white cartridge paper and long new sticks of tinkling charcoal lie on the wooden floor of the gym. Twenty-eight nine-year-olds enter in huge, paint-bespattered shirts. Their life-drawing model, Niki Baldwin, erstwhile dancer and actor, takes up her position, naked but for neutral bodystocking, cat-like on a central mat. A few words from RA artist Charlotte Steel, swift and to the point. "Sometimes we draw with lots of feeling, don't we? And sometimes with ideas — to show how something works. And there are drawings which go with stories. We've got them all inside us."

The model reclines, hands supporting her torso from behind, head slightly lowered and inclined. A tricky pose, fraught with foreshortenings from no matter which angle you view it. Within five minutes, the charcoal is moving fearlessly.

Girls sketch precisely, analytically, small and in the centre of the paper. Boys sweep over the surface with a bold primitivism. Just five minutes on and drawing stops; work is initiated.

Now they have an even bigger sheet of paper in front of them. "Dot the charcoal round all four corners," Steel tells them. "Fast! Draw a big circle, round and round. Now stand up. I'm going to shout one, two, three, and then you make the shape with your bodies of what I call out. Mice! Monkeys! Now, when I shout, make marks on the paper which correspond to what I say. A huge soft smudge! A snake, slithering over the paper! Horrible ugly little marks, eating into the paper!"

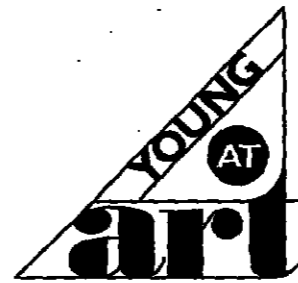
Exercise follows exercise in rapid, fluent sequence. The idea with this age group is not to complete, to develop, to assess, but to look closely, to be aware of the body, to focus on different ways of seeing, on

The anatomy of a lesson

freedom of movement. All our knowledge, as Leonardo said, "has its origin in our perceptions."

Now yet another large sheet. "We're going to draw Niki again!" Charlotte, too, springs up. "But she hates staying still. She can't stay in one position for a moment! What are we going to do?" Even as a watchful eye is lowered to the paper, a leg is raised, an elbow bent, a spine tensed. "It's impossible to make a neat drawing, isn't it? Sooty lines bend, blend, twist, overlap. Drawings begin to look like an animated sequence of Renaissance sketches."

Now the master himself is invoked. "Anyone heard of



Leonardo da Vinci? He was very interested in what our bodies could do. He even dissected them. He cut off the skin and looked inside."

The children pair off, arch their backs, feel the knobs on the spine, the fleshiness of the stomach. They become witches and warlocks. Bent over, crushed under the weight of a sack heavy with spells, flies' eyes, frogs' blood. Faces grimace, voices groan. "Now, in just a couple of minutes, draw what that felt like."

All this, and more, has happened within an hour and a half. Just before lunch, the class tiptoes round its circle of drawings, quietly inspecting each other's work. Before the visit of the RA team, most of the children had only copied pictures from books or drawn portraits of each other. Now they keep sketchbooks in which ideas constantly shift and develop.

Kevin Wright, general inspector for art in the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, has observed both the RA's sixth-form and primary

skills of both observation and imagination become uniquely fused in these intensive projects.

"For once, it's nothing to do with galleries and clipboards," he says. "This really gets to the centre of the business. And no one else is doing it. It's formidable."

● For more information contact Paula Kitt, Education Department, Royal Academy of Arts, London W1V 0DS 0171-404 5730, fax 494 5781

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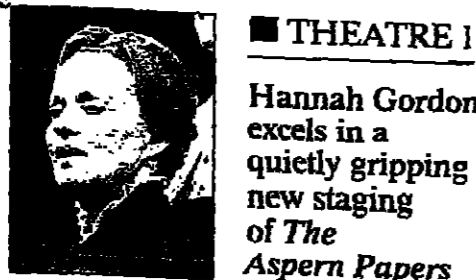
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THEATRE 1

Hannah Gordon excels in a quietly gripping new staging of *The Aspern Papers*



THEATRE 2

... while at the Royal Court Ken Campbell has a good time debunking the thespian life

THE TIMES ARTS



OPERA

Deconstructed Idomeno doesn't really work on a Garsington shoe-string



MUSIC

The best of Chopin: Maria Joao Pires is this week's "Building a Library" choice

OPERA

Mint set on a budget

ONSTAGE at least, Garsington it does seem to have shed its "Anyone for opera?" image — though a jape-filled production of *Idomeno*, Mozart's grandest opera, would be unimaginable. The trouble with David Fielding's new staging is that he deconstructs the story of the King of Crete's vow to Neptune, and deconstructionism on a shoe-string seldom works.

Fielding's own abstract design sits uncomfortably on the terrace of the beautiful Jacobean manor house: the stage is dominated by a giant Polo mint, and it is through the hole we gauge the emotional temperature as curtains are drawn to reveal calm and stormy seas. To underline Idomeno's moral dilemma,

Idomeno
Garsington

Fielding provides a large vermillion maze, but it also becomes a handy place to put the chorus — which sings well while looking unimpressed by the production.

Costumes range from 18th-century to modern, and the chorus is in black shifts and trilbies. Through it all, one senses what Fielding is saying: *Idomeno* is not about war and peace or a ruler's magnanimity, but the king's rash vow and its consequences. His direction of the trio and quartet evokes the conflicting emotions movingly.

Amid this blaze of competence, inspiration was to be found on the musical side. The German soprano Melanie Diener made an auspicious British debut as Ila. Jean Rigby coupled keen, fluent vocalism and urgent dramatic presence as Idomeno, and Rita Cullis's Electra raged strongly. Jon Garrison's Idomeno was dull in recitative and insecure in aria, and given Ryland Davies's tuning problems it would have been kinder to cut both Ariadne's arias. At least Nicholas Sears made a virile-sounding High Priest. Stewart Bedford drew little, refined playing and shapely drama, well worth the trip to Garsington.

JOHN ALLISON

THEATRE: Henry James adapted; Ken Campbell in top form; and dull tragedy

Scoundrel sold short

Henry James always longed to be a successful dramatist, and after a fashion he has become one. True, his own original plays seemed over-elaborate to a late-Victorian public used to little but theatrical beef-and-mustard. There is a famous description of him gulping and quaking in mandarin horror as he came onstage to hear what the balcony felt about *Guy Domville*. But several of his stories have been profitably adapted for both the stage and the screen, and few more so than *The Aspern Papers*, which was last seen in the West End a decade ago.

Then it was Christopher Reeve who played the critic who comes to Venice on a surreptitious search for the love letters written by the American poet Jeffrey Aspern to "the dark lady of the Italian canals". Wendy Hiller was the lady herself in old age, and Vanessa Redgrave the shy, unmarried niece who tends her. Now the role of Henry Jarvis is taken by Daniel J. Travanti and those of the Bordereau women by Moira Lister and Hannah Gordon. Every member of Aurilio Smith's cast performs competently, and one of them more than competently — why, then, did I feel that James's reputation as a dramatist had not been vastly reinforced?

Well, time and changing taste have left parts of Michael Redgrave's adaptation sounding a bit clunky. Transforming first-person narrative to dialogue does oblige poor Travanti to try to give life to awful expository lines about seeking "the key to the riddle of Jeffrey Aspern". But he might fare better if he made us feel there was genuine obsession behind his long, craggy moose-face.

His elegant confidante, Vivien Heilbron's Mrs Prest, says

The Aspern Papers
Wyndham's

that Henry is sensitive and delicate but also a "monster". Travanti gives us plenty of gentlemanly sensitivity, but not the monstrosity of a culture-vulture prepared to commit any baseness in order to get his clammy hands on Aspern's secrets. Falsifying his name, telling lies, deliberately getting a vulnerable spinster into his emotional clutches? You never quite believe Travanti's Henry has the hunger to behave like that.

Hannah Gordon makes a stronger impression, though her casting poses a problem. Even with her hair swept back, her face pale and forlorn, it is hard to think of her as the plain, unlovable woman the plot demands. Nevertheless, she catches the character's innocent oddness. There is something missing at the famous moment when she uses Henry's own tactics against him, hinting that he will get the papers if he marries her; but that, too, may be partly because this Henry lacks emotional depth.

Redgrave's ending owes more to Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler* than to James's story, but it is theatrically effective. So is the scene in which Lister's ineffably antique Bordereau staggers from her wheelchair to catch Jarvis opening her trunk and denounce him as a "publishing scoundrel". Sean Cavanagh's big brown set, with the fading insignia of Venetian lords above the looming wooden doors, is admirable. Rate the evening quietly gripping, modestly enjoyable — but not one that reaches far into the innards of either H.J. Jarvis or James.

BENEDICT
NIGHTINGALE



Hannah Gordon and Daniel J. Travanti star in Aurilio Smith's moderately gripping new staging of the Henry James story, *The Aspern Papers*, at Wyndham's Theatre

Prankster in his prime

KEN CAMPBELL'S *Theatre Stories* has been programmed into Bardays New Stages, partly in recognition of the man's popularity, and partly to give a historical framework to this festival of experimental theatre. The current generation of youngsters may think that they invented the idea of radical theatre in industrial buildings and events lasting

Theatre Stories
Royal Court

for several days, but Campbell was doing this and more back in the Sixties. *The Warp*, for example, lasted from 9pm on Friday to evening bus opening the following Sunday.

Theatre Stories bears a superficial resemblance to the amiable thespian rambles of Peter Ustinov. It may stray over similar territory, may even drop the same names, but this is decisively the alternative version. To reassure us, the stage is adorned with three unexpected carved effigies: a naked Ken Dodd, complete with feather duster; a priapic wooden god figure; and a serene green toad beneath a mushroom parasol.

Moreover, *Theatre Stories* is immaculately constructed. The narrative packhorse over which the many vivid anecdotes are slung is the prank of epic proportions that Campbell perpetrated on the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1980. Trevor Nunn and John Cairns's production of *Nicholas Nickleby* was a runaway success. Campbell got hold of a letter on RSC headed note-paper which was signed, irresistibly, "love Trev". He changed the logo to "RDC".

and sent letters out to theatre grandees (including the head of the Arts Council and even Terry Hands, co-director of the RSC) announcing that the Bard had had his day and that Dickens was the company's new inspiration.

As the evening progresses, Campbell recalls more names from the roll-call of hapless directors, actors and general dupes who reacted to these RDC letters. The list forms an informal history of the British theatre, especially since each name is accompanied by a revealing story. Theatre academics could have a ball exploring the influence of Fluxus on Ken's subversive attack on the conventional theatre.

Campbell himself is far too busy enjoying himself to worry about such things, although present day avant-gardists who feel themselves ripped off by the Establishment will empathise when he points out how much *Nicholas Nickleby* "borrowed" from experimental theatre of the day. It remains to be seen only whether "love Trev" will become a catch phrase when Nunn takes up his post as director of the National Theatre — where, incidentally, Campbell's next solo show opens in September.

CLARE BAYLEY

Weak reflections

BY FAR the most thrilling version of 1992's many *Medeas* was Steve Carter's at the Tricycle, which transposed the characters to the French West Indies, allowing myth and its contemporary equivalent to draw vigour from each other.

Any hope that José Triana's Cuban setting would generate a similar power steadily faded as Yvonne Brewster's production for Talawa wound its way towards the bloody end. Triana wrote the play in 1960, when his peculiar blend of rhetoric, wailing anger and economy of sense found him an audience. Rhetoric can be endured and anger respected, but a senseless plot makes one yearn for a power cut. As for the mirror in the title — Maria, Triana's *Medea*, and her two women servants often refer to it, and gradually I supposed that her reflection had something to do with the future, or her other self — or a way to the gods of hell.

Medea in the Mirror
Brixton Shaw

The opening scene with a scornful Maria (Angela Wynter) refusing to accept what everyone in the town knows, that her Julio has married someone else, is the most interesting passage in the entire 90 minutes, because the two servants are written, and played, with vigour by Sharon D. Clarke, the voluminous, impatient one, and Faith Tingle, the apprehensive gossip.

Wynter, trying to present Maria as a languorous siren, makes a mess of the character. Doubts, fury, deception and indecision are there but poorly structured.

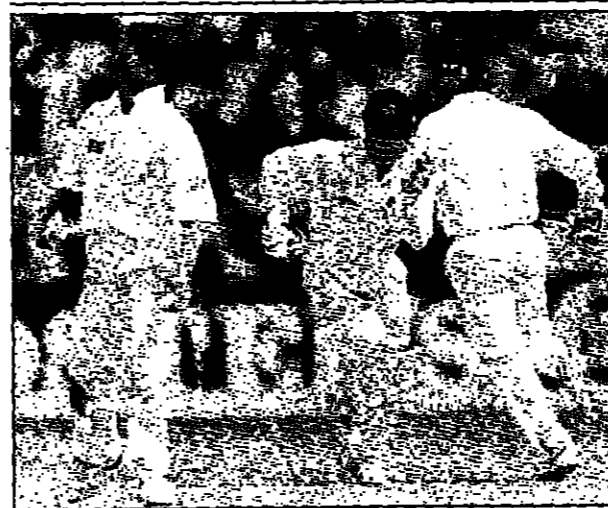
The attractive setting (Ellen Cairns) leaves a spacious acting area. But the relationships never grip.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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Today *The Times* and the TCCB is offering readers another chance to win a pair of tickets to one day of the England v Pakistan Cornhill Test Match at Lord's which starts on July 25. Plus our winner will also get a cricket bat signed by the England team, an England shirt, sweatshirt and baseball cap.

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| LANCASHIRE | NOTTINGHAMSHIRE |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| At Old Trafford | At Warwick |
| July 18 v Derbyshire | August 1 v Glamorgan |
| August 15 v Hampshire | At Trent Bridge |
| September 3 v Middlesex | August 22 v Middlesex |
| At Southampton | August 26 v Surrey |
| August 7 v Surrey | September 3 v Lancashire |
| Ticket price £5 | Ticket price £5 |
| LEICESTERSHIRE | SOMERSET |
| At Leicester | At Taunton |
| July 25 v Sussex | August 1 v Hampshire |
| August 1 v Northamptonshire | August 8 v Essex |
| August 22 v Hampshire | September 3 v Derbyshire |
| August 25 v Somerset | At Weston-Super-Mare |
| September 18 v Middlesex | August 21 v Durham |
| Ticket price £5 | Ticket price £5 |
| MIDDLESEX | SURREY |
| At Lord's | At Guildford |
| August 1 v Essex | July 17 v Sussex |
| August 15 v Worcestershire | At The Oval |
| At Middlesex | August 25 v Warwickshire |
| September 12 v Somerset | September 3 v Northamptonshire |
| Ticket price £5 | September 19 v Worcestershire |
| Ticket price £7 | Ticket price £7 |
| NORTHAMPTONSHIRE | SUSSEX |
| At Northampton | At Eastbourne |
| July 18 v Middlesex | August 1 v Yorkshire |
| August 8 v Kent | At Hove |
| August 22 v Sussex | August 9 v Lancashire |
| September 12 v Lancashire | August 29 v Lancashire |
| September 19 v Yorkshire | September 19 v Somerset |
| Ticket price £7 | Ticket price £4 |

HOW TO APPLY

You will need a valid UK address from the day we will print in *The Times* this week. Taken three sporting days and tickets will appear every day until Saturday July 21. Complete the details on the Voucher which appears and take one on Monday and present this with the ticket when you go to the match. You will be entitled to buy one ticket for the match and you will be entitled to buy one ticket for the match when paying for the full-priced adult admission.



TOMORROW: ANOTHER CHANCE TO WIN TICKETS

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THE TIMES THEATRE CLUB

OPERA WEEKEND

July 12-14
THE highly rated Opera Theatre Company production of Handel's *Amadigi* is the highlight of a special Theatre Club weekend at the Buxton Opera Festival. The weekend starts at lunchtime on Friday, July 12, with a recital by the Chitragiri Quartet. Then, at 8pm, there is a talk by James Conway, director of *Amadigi*, before the performance of the opera.

On Saturday there will be a recital by the young guitarist Richard Chapman and pianist Sophia Rahman, followed by Josephine Barnston and the English Northern Philharmonia with a programme of works by Weber, Brahms and Beethoven. If you have the stamina, a late night show by Rosemary Shelley and Christopher Littlewood celebrates love through the music of Weill and Arlen.

Sunday begins with the Festival Mass, Mozart's Mass in C, at St John's Church. Then, after a special festival lunch, the Opera North Chamber Ensemble performs a programme of quartets by Beethoven, Jan Vachek Stich and Carl Stamitz. In the evening, by contrast, Richard Rodney Bennett and Bernard Reanick perform works by Cole Porter, Sondheim and Gershwin. The whole package costs £199 per person, including two nights' dinner, bed and breakfast accommodation at the three-star Best Western Lee Wood Hotel. To book, telephone the hotel on 01298 23002

BRICKS

STOCK
CHIEF

COMING SOON: TERRY VENABLES'S EXCLUSIVE ACCOUNT OF THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF THE EURO 96 CAMPAIGN

Managing the impossible job

BY TERRY VENABLES

In the second extract from his book, *The Best Game in the World*, Terry Venables analyses the qualities required to become a great manager

A crazy job, an almost impossible job, was the way Ron Greenwood described the manager's role in the modern English game long before Graham Taylor got round to the idea. It came as a bit of a shock, since I had not long been appointed a manager for the first time myself as successor to Malcolm Allison at Crystal Palace in 1976 and had just bumped into Ron at a summer fête to which I had taken my two young daughters. I listened hard because he was a wise man whose experience then spanned all the developments in football since the abolition of the maximum wage in 1961. When Ron Greenwood complained about the increasingly complex nature of the job, you paid attention.

There's a spiral of people in and around the club, he explained, and there in the centre of it all is you, the manager. First of all, you've got your own managerial and coaching staff, which you have to organise. Then there is the playing staff, but you are responsible not just for the first team, but the second and youth teams as well. To get a youth team, you have to attract young players, so that means talking to new boys and their parents. Then there are directors to deal with and transfers to conduct. You handle the players' contracts, too, and coach the first team, travel thousands of miles looking at players and deal with the media. What this boils down to is that you are responsible not only for the results of the first team — by which you are judged — but the building of the club.

The basic nature of the job hasn't changed much in the 20 years since Ron and I met. In most cases, it is still enormously demanding. If there has been a change it has been one of intensity. With the fierceness of competition increasing, the pressure on the football club manager has grown almost unbearable.

Yet the sheer impossibility of the job, I believe, is beginning to lead to a hiving-off of some of the manager's duties. Gradually, we are moving towards the continental

concept of a division of responsibility between the coach, whose only concern is the preparation of the team, and a general manager, who deals with all other administrative matters. That, I am convinced, is the right way to go.

So far as I'm concerned, the modern managerial era begins with men like Sir Matt Busby, Bill Nicholson, Bill Shankly and Ron Greenwood about 15 years after the war. That's when the game started

the gradual acceptance of the idea that the management of a club should be based on a division of responsibility. The relationship between chairman and manager is of vital importance, and its quality depends to a large extent on the personality of the chairman. If he, having put a lot of money into the club, demands a say in football matters, then there are bound to be problems. If, on the other hand, you are a Jack Walker and accept

sey, who was slightly aloof from the players but commanded total respect. Shankly was this huge personality who generated amusement and seriousness in equal parts. But what it added up to in every case was leadership.

Honesty with your players is another essential requirement. I really believe that you cannot retain their respect if you are dishonest with them, that will come through: they'll find you out. You also need a willingness to understand your players. You've got to be prepared to listen to their problems and help them out, not just say you've got other things to do.

Personality, too, is an important ingredient. You've got to have a warmth towards the players, so that they enjoy being part of the club. It also helps you get over bad results if there's a determination to stick together: you'll come through that storm and get back on track.

Football knowledge is essential, of course, but it's not enough just to have played the game professionally. The good manager has to have a teaching knowledge of the game. You must be able to improve your players — technically and tactically. It's very important that you give them a plan where they are in no doubt about what they are supposed to be doing in the team.

All those things amount to the sort of leadership qualities demonstrated by the Busbys, Shanklys, Paisleys, Nicholsons, Greenwoods, Reeves, Robsons and Cloughs. Man-management and knowing your players: that's how you get the most out of them. Money is the ball and end-all for some players, whereas others just want a pat on the back. Then there are others again who need the carrot and the stick.

The trick is to know what's required to get the best out of them all so they can do in your team what you do best.

From *The Best Game in the World*, by Terry Venables, to be published by Century in September.

'Honesty with your players is another essential requirement. If you are dishonest with them, they'll find you out'

to get more professional and become more popular with the media.

There was a process of evolution in which the manager became the all-important figure at certain clubs. In the Sixties and Seventies particularly, it was the manager who ran the show and gave the chairman his orders, so to speak, because he was the only person on the books who knew the game. What has happened now is that the relationship between manager and chairman has come full circle. I think the manager, in lots of cases, is in a weaker position today than he was 50 years ago.

There are two reasons for that. One is the emergence of a new breed of wealthy chairmen/owners in the past ten years or so, and the other is what I mentioned earlier,

that team-building is the manager's job, the rich benefactor is rewarded through the success of the team.

The English club manager is losing that control of the whole club he used to have, but his power in the dressing-room and on the training pitch remains undiminished. If anything, the latter is probably increasing along with his market value. He's been told to stick to what he's good at. You don't cross that dividing line now unless you become a director or a managing director.

In this whole context, I think, the essence of greatness is leadership. That can come in many forms. Sir Matt was this father-figure, who made sure the players were looked after and got everything they wanted. Then you've got Alf Ram-

Casualties of media crossfire

Football is a simple game, but only up to a point. It is getting more and more complex all the time on the field as tactics become increasingly sophisticated, and it has been a really tangled business off it for a long time now — ever since television began to establish itself as king of the media jungle in the early 1960s, in fact.

Virtually unchallenged previously as the main channel of communication between football and its public, the papers felt they could no longer sell just on match reports and official communiques from the clubs. Something stronger and more stimulating was required. Television's coverage of football, I believe, ushered in the age of the back page "exclusive". The competition for football "scoops" grew fiercer as players' wages and transfer fees escalated. At the same time, newspaper circulation figures were shrinking — largely because of TV's popularity — at a rate which sent several of them to the wall. That battle for survival helped to make the competition for sensation-

al football stories even more cut-throat. Today, the whole business is seriously out of control.

I have my own reservations about *Panorama*, after the two wildly inaccurate programmes they did on me, but TV's presentation of the game itself is pretty

all. I told them I couldn't say anything other than what I saw in a game. Unless I do that, I said, the viewers are not going to take us seriously. The people out there are not fools.

If it's done properly, it can be fascinating. It's particularly satisfy-

ball a service on and off the field by fixing the game with its all-seeing eye. It's true the presence of the cameras puts the players and referees under greater pressure than ever, but that's not necessarily a bad thing so far as the players are concerned. When there was no television and no video evidence, players could get away with a lot when the referee wasn't looking.

What you see is what you get from television, but newspapers are a different matter entirely. Interpretation is the name of the game there and I think it has gone far beyond the bounds of acceptability in some cases. Years ago, you knew that reporters would always come back to you to check a story. Now they don't, because they are afraid you will knock it down. One of my big bugbears is the way newspapers set out to make people like Paul Gascoigne look a complete mug. I know he can be his own worst enemy, but the papers go over the top about him and other players and, all of sudden, the kids haven't got any heroes at all.

'That's why it was popular when Jimmy Hill and I disagreed vehemently with each other. That's what the viewers want to hear'

good. Having said that, I do have to admit they don't like you to say there are any bad matches if you are a pundit. I always remember the first World Cup game I commented on. I said it had replaced Mogadon, the sleeping tablet. The television people did not like it at

ing to get a discussion going. Arguments, disagreements, that's what people like to watch. That's why it was popular when Jimmy Hill and I disagreed vehemently with each other. That's what the viewers want to hear.

I think television has done foot-



MY EURO 96 DIARIES

BY GRAHAM KELLY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

A potentially golden moment ruined by an excitable Home Secretary; a battle to prise the Prime Minister away from the television

26
Wednesday
JUNE

The biggest day so far. Semi-final v Germany. Urgent call at 8.30am to augment press team for match against German media. Lose again. Lunch with German officials (including the great Bert Trautmann) at Hyde Park Hotel.

Early to Wembley to watch other semi on television. Disappointing game. Golden goal again fails to materialise.

Prime Minister arrives after a hectic day, two minutes before kick-off. No sooner have we settled into our seats than Ince produces a marvellous volley and Shearer opens the scoring.

Then Germany start to exhibit their hallmark — movement — as England are pressed back.

Equaliser.

Extra time after a superb game and my words about the golden

goal are about to be eaten. Anderton hits post. Gascoigne narrowly misses, and Germany have an effort disallowed.

In fact, I'm told Anderton hits the post, because my view was temporarily obscured by our Home Secretary, who leapt to his feet at the crucial moment. Wait till he taxes me about fans standing in all-seater grounds!

Penalties yet again — which I don't relish against the Germans — and the tension is unbelievable.

We are all stunned by our exit. Bobby Robson: "Who says lightning doesn't strike twice?" Our German colleagues seem genuinely embarrassed by beating us on penalties again. I seek out Terry Venables on the pitch to say "thank you".

I rarely enter the dressing-room, but tonight is an exception as I try — unsuccessfully — to find any

suitable words for Tony Adams and Stuart Pearce. Klinsmann tells me tonight was really the final. I wish him luck in his fitness battle for Sunday.

Home at last to pictures of rioting on Sky News. Have the sickos stolen the game from all those lovely fans again?

27
Thursday
JUNE

Thankfully, the trouble seems to have been only indirectly related to football. Drunken yobs in a number of towns and cities have used the occasion as an excuse for what they no doubt regard as a bit of fun.

The Uefa headquarters hotel, the Royal Garden in Kensington, awakens to the realisation that the tournament has been blessed with a wonderful match fit to grace any final of any event. Quite simply, last night was what football is all

about. The best unrehearsed spectacle of all, pure drama, pure tension, heart-rending emotions, dignity in disappointment and warmly humble in victory.

Terry Venables has proved what I've been saying all along — that he has instilled in the players a more sophisticated grasp of the realities of international football at the highest level. He's left Glenn Hoddle a rich legacy of talent and some tantalisingly difficult decisions!

Into the park for the regular Thursday lunchtime kick-about. Not for me the business lunch or the managing director's afternoon of golf. This Chief Executive relaxes with... 45 minutes football!

Have to get in trim for the FA v Uefa staff match at Wembley the day after the final. I hear Hoddle wants to play, but he must start on the bench, as I did!

Euro 96 has, in many ways, set the seal on English football's rehabilitation in Europe after the dark days of banishment following Hysel. Superb facilities, infectious atmosphere and no fences in front of the fans. Indeed both the English fans and players have done an awful lot for the game.

England announced as Fair Play winners. It is often overlooked at home that our game has an excellent reputation for sportsmanship and the present team has enhanced it in Euro 96. Good news.

To the Sports Council for discussions on new national stadium. Wembley must be overjoyed that everything has gone so well. Back to Royal Garden at 7pm for

reception and presentations by ISL Marketing. Uefa's commercial partners.

Supper at the Mulino, Mill Hill, and home just before midnight.

28
Friday
JUNE

Today is the last formal Uefa Executive Committee meeting for Sir Bert Millichip who has been making it clear for some considerable time that he intends to relinquish the FA chairmanship after 15 years, a remarkable spell in modern day football. He will stay on Uefa as a special adviser.

Establishing rapport with foreign colleagues is a crucial part of our work at Lancaster Gate. Winning and dining is not a role which came easy to me — not surprising as I don't drink, follow a near-vegetarian diet, rise at 5am every morning and have been regarded in some quarters as an inveterate loner — but over the last two years or so I have built strong and lasting relationships with many presidents and general secretaries of other European associations, particularly major players such as France, Germany, Italy, Holland, Belgium and the Nordic group. Recently I have chaired meetings of national associations on the Bosman case and nowhere was the value of personal contact better demonstrated than when I headed the presentation of the successful appeal by Spurs and Wimbledon over their unjustified suspension by Uefa over the Interotto Cup. You have to get to know the people involved and the way they approach things.

Interviews for position of Commercial Director to fill vacancy left by resignation of Trevor Phillips.

To Madame Tussauds for our dinner, welcoming guests from every part of Europe and other confederations on the eve of the 23rd Uefa Congress. This novel and different venue proves highly popular, despite my urging one or two people to keep moving!

I am surprised to learn from Fifa General Secretary, Sepp Blatter, the news that Germany will be allowed to draft in two replacement players for the final.

Overnight in London.

29
Saturday
JUNE

To Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre for 23rd Uefa Congress. Lennart Johansson, speaking of Euro 96, referred to the new spirit of tolerance that was present in the tournament. I like that — I hope it lasts.

Sir Bert Millichip steps down and is elected as honorary member. Erik of Turkey replaces Hyldgaard of Denmark as representative (with D'Hooghe of Belgium) at Fifa.

The Conference dinner is held at Café Royal. London is packed as 150,000 people cram into Hyde Park for the Mastercard bash featuring Eric Clapton, Bob Dylan and The Who.

Discuss the Fifa presidency with Dr Chung, the President of Korea Republic FA — we agree that, above all, the succession must be conducted with dignity and openness.

30
Sunday
JUNE

Oh, for what might have been! Never mind, put on a brave face and look forward to a tension-free match. Belgium and the Netherlands football associations host a Euro 2000 reception — almost time to put Euro 96 behind us.

Try without success to buy a Czech v Germany final scarf. All sold out.

I am detailed to receive heads of state. Helmut Kohl cuts a powerful swathe through the milling crowd on the forecourt, with an entourage numbering 50. John Major is reluctant to be dragged away from the tournament highlights being shown on television, then discusses Stanley Matthews with Franz Beckenbauer, who professes to be too young to remember the maestro.

Before the second half comes alive the last moments are at half-time when Terry Venables receives the Fair Play Award for England and the Dutch ompah band movingly play in front of the royal box after the presentation of the supporters' trophy.

Tournament Director Glen Kinton sitting alongside me reflects happily on a job well done.

Particularly untidy end with poor co-operation between referee and linesman. But Klinsmann fittingly mounds the famous steps to receive the trophy from the Queen. An exhilarating three weeks for English football.

Incalculable benefits for English football. And memories that will always be with us.

FOOTBALL 45

WEST HAM UNITED
SIGN STRIKER
FROM A C MILAN

SPORT

WEDNESDAY JULY 3 1996

RACING 47

DERBY WINNER
WITHDRAWN FROM
SANDOWN MEETING

Big time beckons as Henman courts centre stage



Henman trains with Ivanisevic yesterday

By DAVID MILLER

WISEACRES say he has, as yet, only beaten a couple of clay-court players and two Britons. There is not euphoria all down the line for Tim Henman, who today plays for a place in the men's singles semi-finals at Wimbledon.

Yet he has some sound judges on his side, optimistic about his potential for the big time. Among them is Tony Roche, one of the great left-handers, a superb volleyer and doubles player who lost the 1968 Wimbledon final to Rod Laver after winning the French and Italian titles in 1966.

Roche was a tough Australian grafter and knows the essential ingredient of hard work. "Henman has to continue with the work on his game over the past 12 months,"

Roche said. "He has to improve his service still further, but what is encouraging is that he now believes he can be a top player."

This belief shone through his straight-sets victory over Magnus Gustafsson, the Swede who is ranked No 37 in the world, in Monday's last 16. Everyone around the Centre Court was aware that Henman, at 21 the same age as Fred Perry when he reached his first Wimbledon quarter-final, never considered the possibility of losing for a moment.

It was particularly significant that, when serving for the match at 6-5 in the third set and having trouble with his first service, he deliberately went for the big second serve. It did not work and he lost the game, but he had refused to play safe.



Having failed, he remained nerveless for the tie-break, which he won 7-4 and, with it, the match. "He has a genuine talent," Stan Smith, the runner-up and then Wimbledon champion in 1971-72, observed. "I wouldn't want to say more for the moment while he's still there reaching out for new ground."

As impressive as his temperament in moments of crisis was Henman's range of volleys and ground strokes. Some

of his drives from the baseline, down both flanks, left Gustafsson stranded, while his volleys were consistently deep and pinching the tramlines. He has, too, a touch for mid-court half-volleys, a shot that, for example, has always eluded Boris Becker.

Ian Peacock, the chief executive of the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA), whose £3 million-a-year training programme for juniors and seniors at last seems to be showing reward, emphasised the importance of the mental side of Henman's play. "Most of the better young players can hit the ball well, but it's attitude [that separates them]," he said. "If you add up the points in any match, mostly both players have won about the same, but it's when and where they win them that counts."

ON COURT

Tim Henman (GB) v Todd Martin (US)
(Unseeded)
(No 13 seed)
Second on Centre Court, after Sampras v Krajcek (play starts at noon)
WORLD RANKINGS
Henman 54, Martin 18
TELEVISION: BBC1: 1.40-5.30pm; 10.30-11.55pm (highlight); BBC2: 1.0-3.15pm, 5.35-6.00pm

It is difficult to estimate the LTA's investment in one player, making allowance for use of the £2 million international training centre at Queen's Club, for instance. An approximate figure for Henman would be approaching £150,000, so far: something over £30,000 a year since he left school at 16, post-O levels, to work full time with David Felgate, the LTA coach, who gives Henman perhaps one third of his time.

Prior to that, Henman had

spent four years working out-of-school — Reed's, in Surrey — at David Lloyd's centre at Raynes Park. The making of a potential top-ten player is a lengthy, diligent process. This is Henman's sixth grand-slam event — it was, coincidentally, Gustafsson's 24th — and he had never previously been past the second round. The last British player to reach a quarter-final stage was John Lloyd in the Australian Open in 1985, in which he then lost to Ivan Lendl.

Henman's grandfather, Henry Billington, reached Wimbledon's third round three times, but he died before his grandson was old enough to absorb any reminiscences or advice. "I don't have many memories of him at all," Henman admitted.

He relishes the attention,

and the pressure, which his success has generated. This, too, is the mark of a player who might go far, one who is not frightened but motivated by the prospect of fame. The cheering strengthens his resolve.

"It's a great atmosphere to play in [the Centre Court]," Henman reflected. "I don't think any of you can really understand it until you're out there on the court, with everyone cheering you on every time you hit a winner. It's very, very enjoyable. I hope that it continues... for the rest of my career."

It makes life more difficult, he said, for his opponents to know that they are playing against 15,001 people. Yesterday, Henman was studying Todd Martin, who will be confronted by all those people this afternoon.

KEVIN LAMARQUE

Japanese meets Graf in last four

Date's sun rises to illuminate semi-final spot

By DAVID MILLER

THE drama on Centre Court yesterday was so muted, in the women's singles quarter-finals, that you could have heard a sigh drop. History was made, nonetheless, Kimiko Date, from Tokyo, becoming the first Japanese semi-finalist at the Wimbledon championships since Jiro Satoh in the men's singles and doubles in 1933. Date defeated Mary Pierce 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.

Earlier Steffi Graf, in pursuit of her twentieth grand-slam title, had casually brushed aside Jana Novotna, her 25th win against the Czech. Novotna, the sixth seed, failed to come remotely near her challenge in the final of 1993, capitulating in the second set to lose 6-3, 6-2. Graf has had more trouble cracking a boiled egg.

In her semi-final tomorrow, Graf will meet Date, whose only victory in seven meetings was in three sets in the Fed Cup this year on a synthetic surface. The other semi-final will be between Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, the memorable losing finalist to Graf last year, and Meredith McGrath, a 25-year-old American living in Switzerland and ranked No 27. She has lost their two previous meetings, including one this year.

Although Monica Seles, less than fit and Conchita Martinez, the respective second and third seeds, had fallen in previous rounds, the women's tournament has been short of serious threats for the prominent seeds. Yesterday, only Date dropped a set. Though Wimbledon, of all tourna-

ments, retains a faithful following for the women's game, and down the years has thrilled to great champions from Brough, Bueno, and Connolly, through Court and King to Evert, Navratilova and Graf, the general lack of female athleticism means lack of surprises.

Pierce, the Australian Open champion last year, is the one player — other than Martina Hingis in due time — who could blow the present establishment apart. At 21, she has a physique, the serve, the volleys, the ground strokes. Sadly for her and the public, and fortunately for her opponents, she seldom manages more than 30 seconds of continuous concentration.

Although she was seeded No 13 and Date No 12, Pierce could and should have swept aside the 5ft 4in Japanese in straight sets. As so often her game fell apart, this time at 3-4 down in the second set after which she took only one more game. Her later comment that "I was really close to winning" was self-delusion.

To the multitude of dress and hair adjustments that Pierce persistently makes on court, she has added another: knicker adjustment. Yesterday she wore, beneath a white shift dress so tight around the bodice that the buttons were all but popping, a brief pair of lycra cycle pants. Repeatedly, she was having either to hitch up the waist or grope beneath her skirt to pull down the legs. Inelegant, not to say uncomfortable and distracting.

Additionally, she was seemingly constantly troubled by something in one or other eye, regularly pausing between points and causing Date to wait.



Pierce, the No 13 seed, ponders another missed opportunity on the way to defeat in three sets against Date at Wimbledon yesterday

Few if any on the women's circuit could handle the power of an ordered Pierce, but her concentration wanders so haplessly that, at one moment in the fourth game of the first set, she prepared to receive service in the wrong court. The book by her coach, Brad Gilbert, is called *Winning Ugly*. Pierce was losing ugly.

Little Date took her chance like a true professional. Often she would capitalise on Pierce's pace with her returns. Like Sanchez Vicario, Date is an accomplished retriever, though she hit her share of winners, notably in the game on which the match turned. With Pierce serving at 3-4 in the second set and looking

listless, Date hit three passing shots, took the game and then herself survived three break points to clinch her second set point on Pierce's error. Pierce had nothing left.

The measure of Novotna's Henman dynasty 5
Simon Barnes 48
Stich unravels 49

defeat is that an erratic Graf did not play that well. Novotna's return of service, however, was often feeble and her chipped returns, when not over the baseline, were meat for Graf's second shot. Graf moved to 4-1 in the first set on

a game of five deuces in which she hit seven unforced errors. Novotna increasingly fretted, glancing anxiously at Hana Mandlikova, her coach and friend, sitting in the players' box. There was nothing either could do. "It was a lot easier than I expected," Graf said.

McGrath, 25, a former US Open mixed doubles champion, comfortably defeated Mary Joe Fernandez, the ninth seed, 6-3, 6-1 for an unexpected victory in her first year beyond the fourth round. "I stopped shaking five minutes ago," McGrath said afterwards.

Sanchez Vicario was untroubled in beating Judith Wiesner, the 30-year-old Austrian, 6-4, 6-0.

Taylor's tribute to heir apparent

Alix Ramsay meets the last British player to reach the men's singles quarter-finals

Today Tim Henman will step on to the Centre Court to face Todd Martin, knowing that he could be just a couple of hours away from joining Roger Taylor as the most successful British man at Wimbledon in the open era. Being the bright sort of chap that he is, he also knows that, if the fairy tale has come to its final chapter, he is just a couple of hours away from returning to normality.

Taylor, still fit, still tanned and still playing at 54, knows the feeling well. He reached the semi-finals at Wimbledon twice, the last time in 1973. On his way he beat a promising young Swede by the name of Bjorn Borg. They were heady days. The squealing teenagers clamouring for Borg invaded the Centre Court. "It was the first time it had happened and it was amazing to see it — but I was still the winner," Taylor said.

"Tim has to look at the positives; he's playing at home with all the support behind him. He's got to take advantage of that. British tennis has changed since my day and I think he has

scared you," he said. "It's not as if he's a three-times champion. Tim has bottle, but more important he has self-belief. Nobody gave me a chance when I played Rod Laver in 1970. All the players laughed at me when they saw the draw, but I believed in myself just like Tim."

"He's a very well balanced person and he won't be affected



Taylor serves at Wimbledon in his Seventies heyday

by the hype. He'll feed it all into his game plan. And if he beats Martin it won't change his life. Beating Borg certainly didn't change mine. Even if he wins he still has two matches to go."

In the dim and distant days of Taylor's victory he won £1,000. Henman has already made a fraction over £51,000 and, should he win today, he is guaranteed at least £98,125. Taylor does not begrudge him a penny, or a headline. "The money wasn't much in those days, but it helped to pay the bills, I suppose," he said. "But you don't play Wimbledon for the money, you play it for the respect of your peers. He'll be more happy with the way he has played."

Taylor will be on court today, and he feels confident. "He won't be affected by the enthusiasm of the crowd. If you need proof of his temperament, you just have to look at the way he deals with the Gustafsson match," he said. "Four times they went off for rain and he came back to win. This country is looking for a winner and this is his great chance. Wimbledon puts a big stamp on your reputation."

DIAMONDS MAY BE FOREVER...



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